

HILBERT SCHEMES OF LINES AND CONICS AND AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS OF FANO THREEFOLDS

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ABSTRACT. We discuss various results on Hilbert schemes of lines and conics and automorphism groups of smooth Fano threefolds with Picard rank 1. Besides a general review of facts well known to experts, the paper contains some new results, for instance, we give a description of the Hilbert scheme of conics on any smooth Fano threefold of index 1 and genus 10. We also show that the action of the automorphism group of a Fano threefold X of index 2 (respectively, 1) on an irreducible component of its Hilbert scheme of lines (respectively, conics) is faithful if the anticanonical class of X is very ample with a possible exception of several explicit cases. We use these faithfulness results to prove finiteness of the automorphism groups of most Fano threefolds and classify explicitly all Fano threefolds with infinite automorphism group. We also discuss a derived category point of view on the Hilbert schemes of lines and conics, and use this approach to identify some of them.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Setup and main results. We work over an algebraically closed field \mathbb{k} of characteristic 0.

The purpose of this paper is to survey the results on Hilbert schemes of lines and conics and automorphism groups of Fano threefolds with Picard rank 1. These are usually known to experts, but sometimes are scattered in the literature or even in the mathematical folklore.

Let X be a Fano threefold with at worst canonical Gorenstein singularities. In this case, the number

$$g(X) = -\frac{1}{2}K_X^3 + 1$$

is called the *genus* of X . By Riemann–Roch theorem and Kawamata–Viehweg vanishing one has

$$\dim |-K_X| = g(X) + 1$$

(see e.g. [IP99, 2.1.14]). In particular, $g(X)$ is an integer, and $g(X) \geq 2$. Recall that $\text{Pic}(X)$ is a finitely generated torsion free abelian group, so that

$$\text{Pic}(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{\rho(X)}$$

(this holds even for Fano varieties with log terminal singularities, see e.g. [IP99, Proposition 2.1.2]). The integer $\rho(X)$ is called the *Picard rank* of X . The maximal number $\iota = \iota(X)$ such that $-K_X$ is divisible by ι in $\text{Pic}(X)$ is called the *Fano index*, or just *index*, of X . Let H be a divisor class such that

$$-K_X \sim \iota(X)H.$$

The class H is unique since $\text{Pic}(X)$ is torsion free. Define the *degree* of X as

$$d(X) = H^3.$$

In this paper we concentrate on Fano threefolds with Picard rank 1. Their classification can be found in [IP99, §12.2] (see also [Muk89]). We recall it in Tables 1 and 2 which contain the lists of Fanos with index at least two and index one, respectively. For our purposes it will be important to know for each type of Fano threefolds the minimal integer m_0 such that m_0H is very ample. We list these m_0 in the last columns of the tables.

Note that although in some cases (for $\rho = \iota = 1$ and $g = 3$ or $g = 6$) there are two types of Fano threefolds, they belong to the same deformation family.

TABLE 1. Smooth Fano threefolds with $\rho = 1$ and $\iota \geq 2$

ι	d	$h^{1,2}$	Brief description	m_0
4	1	0	\mathbb{P}^3	1
3	2	0	quadric hypersurface in \mathbb{P}^4	1
2	1	21	hypersurface in $\mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2, 3)$ of degree 6	3
2	2	10	double cover of \mathbb{P}^3 branched in a quartic surface	2
2	3	5	cubic hypersurface in \mathbb{P}^4	1
2	4	2	complete intersection of two quadrics in \mathbb{P}^5	1
2	5	0	section of $\text{Gr}(2, 5) \subset \mathbb{P}^9$ by a linear subspace of codimension 3	1

TABLE 2. Smooth Fano threefolds with $\rho = 1$ and $\iota = 1$

g	$-K^3$	$h^{1,2}$	Brief description	m_0
2	2	52	double cover of \mathbb{P}^3 branched in a sextic surface	3
3	4	30	(a) quartic hypersurface in \mathbb{P}^4 , or	1
			(b) double cover of a smooth quadric in \mathbb{P}^4 branched in an intersection with a quartic	2
4	6	20	complete intersection of a quadric and a cubic in \mathbb{P}^5	1
5	8	14	complete intersection of three quadrics \mathbb{P}^6	1
6	10	10	(a) section of $\text{Gr}(2, 5) \subset \mathbb{P}^9$ by a linear subspace of codimension 2 and a quadric, or (b) double cover of the Fano threefold Y with $\iota(Y) = 2$ and $d(Y) = 5$ branched in an anticanonical divisor	1
7	12	7	section of a connected component of the orthogonal Lagrangian Grassmannian $\text{OGr}_+(5, 10) \subset \mathbb{P}^{15}$ by a linear subspace of codimension 7	1
8	14	5	section of $\text{Gr}(2, 6) \subset \mathbb{P}^{14}$ by a linear subspace of codimension 5	1
9	16	3	section of the symplectic Lagrangian Grassmannian $\text{LGr}(3, 6) \subset \mathbb{P}^{13}$ by a linear subspace of codimension 3	1
10	18	2	section of the homogeneous space $G_2/P \subset \mathbb{P}^{13}$ by a linear subspace of codimension 2	1
12	22	0	zero locus of three sections of the rank 3 vector bundle $\Lambda^2 \mathcal{U}^\vee$, where \mathcal{U} is the universal subbundle on $\text{Gr}(3, 7)$	1

The first main result of this paper is an explicit description of the Hilbert schemes of lines $\Sigma(Y)$ on Fano threefolds Y of Picard rank 1, index 2 and degree $d(Y) \geq 3$ and the Hilbert schemes of conics $S(X)$ on Fano threefolds X of Picard rank 1, index 1 and genus $g(X) \geq 7$ (by lines and conics we mean lines and conics in the embedding given by the linear system $|H|$). We collect the results we have in the following theorem.

Theorem 1.1.1. *Let Y be a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \geq 3$. Then the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(Y)$ is a smooth irreducible surface and moreover:*

- (2.3) *if $d(Y) = 3$, then $\Sigma(Y)$ is a minimal surface of general type with irregularity 5, geometric genus 10 and canonical degree $K_{\Sigma(Y)}^2 = 45$;*
- (2.4) *if $d(Y) = 4$, then $\Sigma(Y)$ is an abelian surface;*
- (2.5) *if $d(Y) = 5$, then $\Sigma(Y) \cong \mathbb{P}^2$.*

Let X be a smooth Fano threefold $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) \geq 7$. Then the Hilbert scheme of conics $S(X)$ is a smooth irreducible surface and moreover:

- (1.7) *if $g(X) = 7$, then $S(X)$ is the symmetric square of a smooth curve of genus 7;*
- (1.8) *if $g(X) = 8$, then $S(X)$ is a minimal surface of general type with irregularity 5, geometric genus 10 and canonical degree $K_{S(X)}^2 = 45$;*
- (1.9) *if $g(X) = 9$, then $S(X)$ is a ruled surface that is a projectivization of a simple rank 2 vector bundle on a smooth curve of genus 3;*
- (1.10) *if $g(X) = 10$, then $S(X)$ is an abelian surface;*
- (1.12) *if $g(X) = 12$, then $S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}^2$.*

To be honest, most of the information provided by Theorem 1.1.1 can be found in the literature (see [AK77], [DR76], [FN89], [Ten74], [Isk80], [Put82], [Mar81], [Ili03], [IM07], [BF13], etc). Our goal was, in a sense, in collecting all the results together, and cleaning things a bit. One new improvement here is the case $\iota(X) = 1$ and $g(X) = 10$, where originally in [IM07, Proposition 3] a description of $S(X)$ was known for general X only. Another improvement is the case $\iota(X) = 1$ and $g(X) = 9$ where it was previously known that $S(X)$ is a projectivization of a vector bundle over a curve of genus 3, but simplicity of the vector bundle was known only for a general threefold X (see [BF13, §3]). Also, our proof for the even genus cases, i.e. $\iota(X) = 1$ and $g(X) \in \{8, 10, 12\}$, emphasizes the relation between Fano threefolds of index 1 and 2. We show that if Y is a Fano threefold of index 2 and degree

$$d(Y) = \frac{g(X)}{2} - 1$$

associated to X by [Kuz09] then $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$.

For small degrees and genera the situation with the Hilbert schemes of lines and conics is much more complicated. For instance, in the case $\iota(Y) = 2$ and $d(Y) = 2$ the scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ may be singular and in the case $\iota(X) = 1$ and $g(X) = 6$ the scheme $S(X)$ may be even reducible. Furthermore, for small values of $g(X)$ it is quite hard to get a satisfactory explicit description of $S(X)$. Say, for $g(X) = 2$ the only more or less explicit description of $S(X)$ we are aware of is as a 240-to-1 branched cover of \mathbb{P}^2 , which is not very much useful. So, it seems that our result is a kind of optimal in that direction.

A description of the Hilbert schemes of lines and conics allows to produce some results on the automorphism groups of the corresponding varieties. The automorphism groups clearly act on the Hilbert schemes and we prove that the action is faithful in all cases listed in Theorem 1.1.1. In fact, we deduce faithfulness from a more general result (Theorem 4.1.1). In particular, it applies to all X with $g(X) \geq 4$ and to some X with $g(X) = 3$, and shows that the action on an irreducible component of a Hilbert scheme is faithful unless X is a double cover of a smooth Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = g(X) - 1$, in which case there is an irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme of conics on X on which the Galois involution of the double cover acts trivially.

We note that in most of the cases listed in Theorem 1.1.1, the maximal linear algebraic subgroup of the automorphism group of the surface $\Sigma(Y)$ and $S(X)$ is at most finite; the only exceptions are cases (2.5) and (1.12). Due to the faithfulness result, this proves that the automorphism groups of the threefolds listed in Theorem 1.1.1, except the threefolds (2.5) and (1.12), are finite as well.

Our second main result is an extension of this observation to the following general statement describing all possible infinite automorphism groups of Fano threefolds with Picard rank 1.

Theorem 1.1.2. *Let X be a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$. Then the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ is finite unless one of the following cases occurs:*

- $\iota(X) = 4$ and $X \cong \mathbb{P}^3$;
- $\iota(X) = 3$ and X is a quadric in \mathbb{P}^4 ;
- $\iota(X) = 2$, $d(X) = 5$; then $\text{Aut}(X) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$;
- $\iota(X) = 1$, $g(X) = 12$, and X is one of the following
 - (1) $X = X_{22}^{\text{MU}}$ is the Mukai–Umemura threefold; then $\text{Aut}(X) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$;
 - (2) $X = X_{22}^{\text{a}}$ is the threefold of Example 5.2.4; then $\text{Aut}^0(X) \cong \mathbb{G}_{\text{a}}$;
 - (3) $X = X_{22}^{\text{m}}$ is a threefold from the one-dimensional family of Example 5.2.7; then $\text{Aut}^0(X) \cong \mathbb{G}_{\text{m}}$.

Again, we should say that Theorem 1.1.2 was already known for Fano threefolds X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) \geq 7$, see [Pro90a]. Some of the remaining cases can be also found in the literature.

Using the classification of Fano threefolds with Picard rank 1 (see [IP99, §12.2], or Tables 1 and 2) we conclude that Theorem 1.1.2 implies the following.

Corollary 1.1.3. *Let X be a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$. If the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ is infinite, then $h^{1,2}(X) = 0$.*

Our proof of Theorem 1.1.2 relies on a classification of smooth Fano threefolds. It would be interesting to find a proof of Corollary 1.1.3 that does not depend on a classification, and use it to obtain an alternative proof of Theorem 1.1.2. Note that [Tol10, Theorem 1] can be considered as a symplectic counterpart of Corollary 1.1.3, and to some extent can be used to recover it; namely, the results of [Tol10] imply that an automorphism group of a smooth Fano threefold X of Picard rank 1 cannot contain a subgroup isomorphic to \mathbb{G}_{m} unless $h^{1,2}(X) = 0$.

1.2. Outline of the paper. The plan of our paper is as follows.

In §2 we collect the necessary results about Hilbert schemes of lines and conics on Fano threefolds. Some rather technical parts of the material were moved to Appendix A for the readers convenience. Another part of the arguments that uses derived categories perspective and technique is collected in Appendix B. The main result of this section is a proof of Theorem 1.1.1.

We point out that Hilbert schemes of lines and conics were studied in many papers. However some authors prefer to consider only *general* Fano varieties in the corresponding families (see e.g. [Ili03]). On the other hand, for the applications to Cremona groups (cf. [Pro12], [Pro11], [Pro14], [Pro15]) one needs to consider some particular varieties. This is why we are trying to put our arguments in full generality.

In §3 we recall various general results about automorphism groups of algebraic varieties, including actions on invariant linear systems and some well-known finiteness assertions.

In §4 we prove finiteness of automorphism groups for all Fano threefolds of Picard rank 1 except those listed in Theorem 1.1.2. We start in §4.1 by proving a general faithfulness result (Theorem 4.1.1) for an algebraic group action on irreducible components of Hilbert schemes of (anticanonical) conics on Fano varieties of arbitrary dimension. In §4.2 we apply it to the action of the automorphism group of a Fano threefold of index 2 and degree at least 3 on (an irreducible component of) the Hilbert scheme of lines, and in §4.3 we apply it to the action of the automorphism group of a Fano threefold of index 1 and genus at least 3 on (an irreducible component of) the Hilbert scheme of conics. For $d \geq 3$ and $g \geq 7$ we prove faithfulness of these actions and combining it with the description of Hilbert schemes provided by Theorem 1.1.1, deduce finiteness of the automorphism group. Note that besides just proving finiteness, this approach allows to give explicit upper bounds on some parameters of automorphism groups, which may be useful for further applications (cf. [PS14], [PS16]). Finally, in §4.4 we prove finiteness of the automorphism groups in the remaining (easy) cases in a more straightforward way.

In §5 we study Fano threefolds of index 1 and genus 12 with infinite automorphism groups via a double projection method and complete our proof of Theorem 1.1.2.

In Appendix A we collect some well-known facts about conics. First, we remind a classification of surfaces whose Hilbert scheme of conics is at least two-dimensional. After that we remind a description of normal bundles of reducible and non-reduced conics.

In Appendix B we prove Theorem 2.3.5 relating the Hilbert schemes of conics on Fano threefolds of index 1 and genera 8, 10, and 12 to the Hilbert schemes of lines on Fano threefolds of index 2 and degrees 3, 4, and 5, respectively. The proof is based on the relation between derived categories of these threefolds established in [Kuz09]. We remind this approach, discuss some details of the relation, and then prove Theorem 2.3.5. We also write down proofs for some well-known results of Mukai concerning vector bundles on Fano threefolds that we could not find in the literature.

Notation and conventions. We work over an algebraically closed field \mathbb{k} of characteristic 0. We assume that the Fano varieties appearing in the paper are smooth unless the converse is mentioned explicitly. We remind about the smoothness assumption only at the most important points of our exposition.

We use the following notation throughout the paper. We denote by μ_m the group of m -th roots of unity (isomorphic to a cyclic group of order m), and sometimes also use $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ to denote the same group when a choice of a generator is too obvious.

For a Fano threefold X we keep the notation $\rho(X)$, $\iota(X)$, $d(X)$, and $g(X)$ for the Picard rank, the Fano index, the degree, and the genus of X , respectively. If $\rho(X) = 1$, we always denote by H the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

By $\text{Pic}(X)$ and $\text{Cl}(X)$ we denote the Picard group and the class group of Weil divisors on the variety X , respectively. If D is a divisor on X , we denote by $\text{Aut}(X; D)$ the group of automorphisms of X that preserve D . Similarly, if $[D]$ is a divisor class in $\text{Pic}(X)$ or $\text{Cl}(X)$, we denote by $\text{Aut}(X; [D])$ the group of automorphisms of X that preserve the class $[D]$. If Z is a subscheme in X , we denote by $[Z]$ the point corresponding to Z in the appropriate Hilbert scheme.

By $\text{Gr}(k, n)$ we denote the Grassmannian of vector subspaces of dimension k in a vector space of dimension n ; similarly, by $\text{Gr}(k, W)$ we denote the variety of vector subspaces

of dimension k in the vector space W . By a linear section of a Grassmannian we always mean its linear section in the Plücker embedding, i.e. in the embedding defined by the ample generator of its Picard group. By $v_2: \mathbb{P}(V) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\text{Sym}^2 V)$ we denote the second Veronese embedding.

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2. HILBERT SCHEMES OF LINES AND CONICS

In this section we discuss general properties of Hilbert schemes of lines and conics on Fano threefolds and give an explicit description for some of them.

2.1. General properties of Hilbert schemes. Let X be a projective variety with a fixed ample divisor class H . Recall that a *line* (or an H -*line* to be more precise) on X is a subscheme $L \subset X$ with Hilbert polynomial

$$p_L(t) = 1 + t.$$

Similarly, a *conic* (or an H -*conic*) on X is a subscheme $C \subset X$ with Hilbert polynomial

$$p_C(t) = 1 + 2t.$$

We denote by

$$\Sigma(X) = \text{Hilb}^{p(t)=1+t}(X; H)$$

the Hilbert scheme of lines on X , and by

$$S(X) = \text{Hilb}^{p(t)=1+2t}(X; H)$$

the Hilbert scheme of conics on X .

Lemma 2.1.1. *Let X be a projective variety with an ample divisor class H .*

- (i) *If $2H$ is very ample and $L \subset X$ is an H -line then $L \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ and $\mathcal{O}_X(H)|_L \cong \mathcal{O}_L(1)$.*
- (ii) *If H is very ample and $C \subset X$ is an H -conic then C is purely one-dimensional and*
 - *either C is a smooth conic, i.e. $C \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ and $\mathcal{O}_X(H)|_C \cong \mathcal{O}_C(2)$,*
 - *or C is a reducible conic, i.e. $C = L_1 \cup L_2$ for two distinct lines L_1 and L_2 on X intersecting transversally at a point,*
 - *or C is a non-reduced conic, i.e. a non-reduced subscheme $C \subset X$ such that $C_{\text{red}} = L$ is a line and $I_L/I_C \cong \mathcal{O}_L(-1)$.*

Proof. First, assume that H is very ample. Then we may assume that $X = \mathbb{P}^n$, and H is the class of a hyperplane.

If $p_L(t) = 1 + t$ then all irreducible components of L have dimension at most 1, and the sum of the degrees (with multiplicities) of all one-dimensional components is 1. Let L_0 be the purely one-dimensional part of L and let ℓ be the sum of the lengths of all zero-dimensional components (including embedded ones). Then by the above observation L_0 is integral of degree 1, hence L_0 is \mathbb{P}^1 linearly embedded into \mathbb{P}^n . In particular, one has $p_{L_0}(t) = 1 + t$, hence $p_L(t) = 1 + \ell + t$, which means $\ell = 0$ and so $L = L_0$.

Analogously, let $p_C(t) = 1 + 2t$. Then all irreducible components of C have dimension at most 1, and the sum of the degrees (with multiplicities) of all one-dimensional components is 2. Let C_0 be the purely one-dimensional part of C and let ℓ be the sum of the lengths of all zero-dimensional components (including embedded ones). If C_0 is integral, then it

is contained in the linear span of any triple of its points. Thus C_0 is a divisor of degree 2 on \mathbb{P}^2 , so $C_0 \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ and $\mathcal{O}_X(H)|_{C_0} \cong \mathcal{O}_{C_0}(2)$. Furthermore, we have $p_{C_0}(t) = 1 + 2t$, hence $p_C(t) = 1 + \ell + 2t$ which means $\ell = 0$ and $C = C_0$.

If C_0 is not integral, then either it has two different irreducible components L_1 and L_2 of degree 1, or one irreducible component L of degree 1 with multiplicity 2. In the first case, L_1 and L_2 are lines, hence their scheme-theoretic intersection has length $\delta = 0$ or $\delta = 1$. It follows that

$$p_C(t) = \ell + (1 + t) + (1 + t) - \delta,$$

which means that $\ell = 0$ and $\delta = 1$. In other words, L_1 and L_2 intersect at a point and $C = L_1 \cup L_2$.

In the second case we have a canonical epimorphism $\mathcal{O}_{C_0} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L$ and its kernel is a line bundle on L , hence is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_L(k)$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$p_C(t) = \ell + (1 + t) + (1 + k + t),$$

which implies $k = -(1 + \ell)$. On the other hand, it is easy to see that $\mathcal{O}_L(k)$ should be a quotient of I_L/I_L^2 which is the conormal bundle of L in \mathbb{P}^n , hence is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_L(-1)^{\oplus(n-1)}$. Therefore $k \geq -1$, so comparing with the previous observation, we see that $k = -1$ and $\ell = 0$. In other words, $C_{\text{red}} = L$ and $I_L/I_C \cong \mathcal{O}_L(-1)$.

Finally, assume that H is not ample, but $2H$ is very ample and $p_L(t) = 1 + t$. Then with respect to $2H$ the Hilbert polynomial of L is $1 + 2t$, hence in the embedding of X given by the linear system $2H$ it is a conic. But it can be neither reducible, nor non-reduced conic, since X contains no curves which have degree 1 with respect to $2H$. Thus $L \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ and $\mathcal{O}_X(2H)|_L \cong \mathcal{O}_L(2)$, which implies the claim. \square

Remark 2.1.2. If for a line $L \subset X$ there is a non-reduced conic C with $C_{\text{red}} = L$, we will say that L admits a structure of a non-reduced conic. It is worth noting that in contrast to the case of a projective space, not every line admits such a structure. Indeed, as we have seen in the proof of Lemma 2.1.1 above, a line L admits a structure of a non-reduced conic if and only if there is an epimorphism $\mathcal{N}_L^\vee = I_L/I_L^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(-1)$. In Remark 2.1.7 below we discuss for which lines on Fano threefolds this holds.

Remark 2.1.3. It is easy to see that one cannot have the same results as in Lemma 2.1.1 under weaker assumptions. Indeed, assume we consider $\Sigma(X)$ and only the divisor $3H$, but not $2H$, is very ample. Then we can realize $\Sigma(X)$ as a subscheme in $\text{Hilb}^{p(t)=1+3t}(\mathbb{P}^n)$. The latter, however, has two irreducible components: one parameterizing normal rational cubic curves, and the other parameterizing plane cubics plus a point (possibly an embedded one). Therefore the same is true in general for $\Sigma(X)$. Similarly, assume we consider $S(X)$ and only $2H$, but not H , is very ample. Then we can realize $S(X)$ as a subscheme in $\text{Hilb}^{p(t)=1+4t}(\mathbb{P}^n)$. The latter Hilbert scheme also has several irreducible components, some of which parameterize curves of other types.

From now on we consider the Hilbert schemes of lines and conics on Fano threefolds with Picard rank 1 and index 1 or 2 (with respect to the ample generator H of the Picard group). We note that the Hilbert schemes $\Sigma(X)$ and $S(X)$ are nonempty by [Sho79] (see also [Rei80]). As it was explained above to avoid pathologies when considering $\Sigma(X)$ we should restrict to the case when $2H$ is very ample, i.e., to Fano threefolds of index 1 and genus $g \geq 3$, as well as Fano threefolds of index 2 with $d \geq 2$. Similarly, when considering $S(X)$ we should restrict to the case when H is very ample: in the index 1

case this means that either $g \geq 4$, or $g = 3$ and X is a quartic threefold, while in the index 2 case this means $d \geq 3$.

Under our assumptions, by Lemma 2.1.1 both lines and conics are locally complete intersections, hence their conormal and normal sheaves are locally free. We will need some facts about them. The first is quite standard.

Lemma 2.1.4 ([Isk80, Propositions III.1.3(ii) and III.2.1(i), Lemma III.3.2]). *If L is a line and C is a smooth conic on a Fano threefold X of index 1 then*

$$\mathcal{N}_{L/X} \cong \mathcal{O}_L(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_L(-1-a) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{N}_{C/X} \cong \mathcal{O}_C(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_C(-a)$$

for some $a \geq 0$. If L is a line and C is a smooth conic on a Fano threefold Y of index 2 then

$$\mathcal{N}_{L/Y} \cong \mathcal{O}_L(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_L(-a) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{N}_{C/Y} \cong \mathcal{O}_C(1+a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_C(1-a)$$

for some $a \geq 0$.

It is a bit harder to deal with the normal bundle of a reducible or non-reduced conic C (see §A.2).

Recall that by [Gro62] or [Kol96, Theorem I.2.8] the tangent space to the Hilbert scheme at a point corresponding to a locally complete intersection subscheme $Z \subset X$ is $H^0(Z, \mathcal{N}_{Z/X})$ and the obstruction space is $H^1(Z, \mathcal{N}_{Z/X})$. Therefore, the dimension of any irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme is bounded from below by $\chi(\mathcal{N}_{Z/X})$. By Lemma 2.1.4 and Corollaries A.2.3, and A.2.5 in the cases that are most relevant for us this gives.

Corollary 2.1.5. *The following assertions hold.*

- (i) *If Y is a Fano threefold of index 2, then the dimension of any component of $\Sigma(Y)$ is at least 2.*
- (ii) *If X is a Fano threefold of index 1, then the dimension of any component of $\Sigma(X)$ is at least 1.*
- (iii) *If X is a Fano threefold of index 1, then the dimension of any component of $S(X)$ is at least 2.*

A bit later we will see that in all the cases listed in Corollary 2.1.5, the Hilbert schemes are equidimensional of dimensions 2, 1, and 2 respectively (see Lemmas 2.2.3, 2.2.6, 2.3.3, and 2.3.4).

In what follows we will say that a line or a smooth conic is *ordinary*, if in the notation of Lemma 2.1.4 we have $a = 0$, and *special*, if $a \geq 1$. Furthermore, if $a = 1$ we will say that the corresponding line (or conic) is *1-special*, and if $a \geq 2$ we will say that it is *2-special*.

Corollary 2.1.6. *If X is a Fano threefold of index 1, the Hilbert schemes $\Sigma(X)$ and $S(X)$ are smooth of dimensions 1 and 2 at points corresponding to ordinary lines and smooth ordinary or smooth 1-special conics respectively. If Y is a Fano threefold of index 2, the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ is smooth of dimension 2 at points corresponding to ordinary lines or 1-special lines and singular at points corresponding to 2-special lines.*

Proof. The obstruction space $H^1(Z, \mathcal{N}_{Z/X})$ vanishes by Lemma 2.1.4. □

Remark 2.1.7. Note that according to Remark 2.1.2, only 1-special lines on Fano threefolds (both of index 1 and 2) admit a structure of a non-reduced conic, and this structure is

unique. In particular, if X is a Fano threefold of index 1 such that $\Sigma(X)$ is smooth, then X has no non-reduced conics.

As we will see below, it is useful to know that Fano threefolds do not contain some special surfaces. We check this in the next lemma.

Lemma 2.1.8. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$, and suppose that $-K_X$ is very ample. Then the following assertions hold.*

- (i) *The threefold X contains neither the Veronese surface $v_2(\mathbb{P}^2)$, nor any of its linear projections.*
- (ii) *If X contains a two-dimensional cone Z then X is a quartic in \mathbb{P}^4 and the base of Z is a smooth plane quartic curve.*

Proof. Assume that $Z \subset X$ is one of the surfaces listed in assertion (i), so that in particular $H^2 \cdot Z \leq 4$. Since $\rho(X) = 1$, we have $Z \sim rH$ for some positive integer r , hence

$$4 \geq H^2 \cdot Z = rH^3 = r(2g(X) - 2)$$

Since $-K_X$ is very ample, we have $g(X) \geq 3$. Hence the only possible case is when X is a quartic in \mathbb{P}^4 , $r = 1$, and $H^2 \cdot Z = 4$, so that Z is a regular projection of the Veronese surface. Moreover, we see that Z is a hyperplane section of the smooth hypersurface $X \subset \mathbb{P}^4$, so that Z has at worst isolated singularities, and Z is contained in \mathbb{P}^3 . But the latter is impossible for a regular projection of a Veronese surface. This gives assertion (i).

If $Z \subset X$ is a two-dimensional cone with vertex at a point $P \in Z$ then Z is contained in the embedded tangent space to X at P . Since X is smooth, the embedded tangent space to X at P is \mathbb{P}^3 , so Z is an irreducible component of a hyperplane section of X . But since $\text{Pic}(X) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot H$, it follows that Z is a hyperplane section, so $g(X) = 3$ and hence X is a quartic threefold. The base of Z is a quartic curve; it is smooth since Z , being a hyperplane section of a smooth hypersurface $X \subset \mathbb{P}^4$, can have at worst isolated singularities. This gives assertion (ii). \square

An easy parameter count shows that a general quartic threefold in \mathbb{P}^4 does not contain cones. However, there are examples of quartic threefolds with cones.

Example 2.1.9 (see [Ten74]). Consider the Fermat quartic threefold

$$X = \{x_0^4 + x_1^4 + x_2^4 + x_3^4 + x_4^4 = 0\} \subset \mathbb{P}^4.$$

Let $P \in X$ be a point with the last three coordinates equal to zero (there are four such points) and consider the plane $\Pi = \{x_0 = x_1 = 0\}$. Consider the hyperplane $H(P, \Pi) \subset X$ spanned by the point P and the plane Π . Then $X \cap H(P, \Pi)$ is the cone with vertex P and the base being the plane Fermat quartic $\Pi \cap X$. Using the action of the automorphism group

$$\text{Aut}(X) \cong \mu_4^4 \rtimes \mathfrak{S}_5,$$

we can construct $4 \cdot 10 = 40$ such cones.

2.2. Hilbert schemes of lines. Let X be a smooth Fano threefold. Let Σ_0 be an irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(X)$, and consider a reduced scheme

structure on Σ_0 . Restricting to Σ_0 the universal family of lines, we obtain a diagram

$$(2.2.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{L}_0(X) & \\ q \swarrow & & \searrow p \\ \Sigma_0 & & X \end{array}$$

The map $q: \mathcal{L}_0(X) \rightarrow \Sigma_0$ is a \mathbb{P}^1 -bundle. Consider a line L on X and let $[L] \in \Sigma_0$ be the corresponding point of the Hilbert scheme. The fiber $q^{-1}([L])$ is identified by the map p with the line L . Note that the normal bundle of L in $\mathcal{L}_0(X)$ is the trivial bundle of rank equal to the dimension of the tangent space to Σ_0 at $[L]$. So, the differential of p is the map

$$(2.2.2) \quad dp: \mathcal{N}_{L/\mathcal{L}_0(X)} = T_{[L]}\Sigma_0 \otimes \mathcal{O}_L \hookrightarrow T_{[L]}\Sigma(X) \otimes \mathcal{O}_L = H^0(L, \mathcal{N}_{L/X}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/X}$$

with the last map being given by evaluation. This is very useful for understanding the infinitesimal structure of the map p along L .

Lemma 2.2.3. *If X is a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and very ample $-K_X$, then every irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(X)$ of lines on X is one-dimensional.*

Proof. Let $\Sigma_0 \subset \Sigma(X)$ be an irreducible component of dimension $k \geq 2$, and consider a reduced scheme structure on Σ_0 . Consider the map (2.2.2). Its source is a trivial vector bundle, and by Lemma 2.1.4 its target is

$$\mathcal{N}_{L/X} \cong \mathcal{O}_L(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_L(-1-a)$$

with $a \geq 0$. Since the second summand has no global sections, the image of dp is contained in the first summand, hence the rank of dp does not exceed 1. Moreover, since Σ_0 is reduced, so is $\mathcal{L}_0(X)$, and hence so is the general fiber of the map p . This means that the map

$$p: \mathcal{L}_0(X) \rightarrow X$$

has fibers of dimension at least $k - 1$, hence the image $Z = p(\mathcal{L}_0(X))$ has dimension at most $k + 1 - (k - 1) = 2$. Therefore, $Z \subset X$ is a surface with $\dim \Sigma(Z) = k \geq 2$. By Corollary A.1.3 the surface Z is a plane, but by Lemma 2.1.8(i) the threefold X contains no planes, which is a contradiction. \square

Remark 2.2.4. On most Fano threefolds X with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$ a general point of every irreducible component of $\Sigma(X)$ is an ordinary line. However, there are some exceptions. First, if X is the Mukai–Umemura threefold of genus 12 (see [MU83, §6] or Theorem 5.1.3 below) then all lines on X are special, and in fact $\Sigma(X)$ is everywhere non-reduced with $\Sigma(X)_{\text{red}} \cong \mathbb{P}^1$. Another interesting example is a quartic X in \mathbb{P}^4 containing a cone (see Example 2.1.9) so that $g(X) = 3$. In this case the map dp is degenerate along any line that is a ruling of this cone, so that the corresponding irreducible component of $\Sigma(X)$ is everywhere non-reduced with the underlying reduced scheme being a smooth plane quartic. In the opposite direction not that much is known. What we know is that the Mukai–Umemura threefold is the only one with everywhere non-reduced $\Sigma(X)$ in genus 12, and that in genus 10 and 9 there are no threefolds with $\Sigma(X)$ everywhere non-reduced [Pro90b], [GLN06].

Remark 2.2.5. Suppose that X is a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$. If X is general in the corresponding deformation family, then $\Sigma(X)$ is a smooth curve, and its genus can be computed in every case, see [IP99, Theorem 4.2.7].

Now consider the Hilbert scheme of lines on threefolds Y of index 2.

Lemma 2.2.6. *Suppose that Y is a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$ and $\iota(Y) = 2$. Suppose that the divisor $2H$ is very ample, i. e. that $d(Y) \geq 2$. Then every irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ of lines on Y is two-dimensional and its general point corresponds to an ordinary line. Moreover, the map $p: \mathcal{L}_0(Y) \rightarrow Y$ is surjective, generically finite, does not contract divisors, and is not birational.*

Proof. Let $\Sigma_0 \subset \Sigma(Y)$ be an irreducible component, and consider a reduced scheme structure on Σ_0 . Assume that a line corresponding to a general point of Σ_0 is special. By the argument of Lemma 2.2.3 the rank of the map dp does not exceed 1, and the map

$$p: \mathcal{L}_0(Y) \rightarrow Y$$

has fibers of dimension at least $k - 1$, where $k = \dim \Sigma_0$. Therefore, the image

$$Z = p(\mathcal{L}_0(Y))$$

has dimension at most $k + 1 - (k - 1) = 2$. Thus $Z \subset Y$ is a surface, and by Corollary 2.1.5 one has $\dim \Sigma(Z) \geq \dim \Sigma_0 = k \geq 2$. By our assumption the divisor $2H$ is very ample, hence by Corollary A.1.3 the surface Z is a plane. But Y cannot contain a plane by adjunction, which gives a contradiction. Therefore a general point of Σ_0 corresponds to an ordinary line L , hence $\dim \Sigma_0 = 2$ by Corollary 2.1.6. Moreover, for such L all the maps in (2.2.2) are isomorphisms, so the map dp is an isomorphism on L , hence the map p is dominant and unramified along L . Since p is also proper, it is surjective. Moreover, since $\dim \mathcal{L}_0(Y) = 3 = \dim Y$, the map p is generically finite.

Now consider the ramification locus $R(p) \subset \mathcal{L}_0(Y)$ of the map p . Let L be a line corresponding to an arbitrary point of Σ_0 . If L is an ordinary line then we have already seen that p is unramified along L . If, however, L is special, the map dp is degenerate at all points of L . Therefore the ramification locus $R(p) \subset \mathcal{L}_0(Y)$ is just the preimage under q of the locus of special lines in Σ_0 .

Assume that $D \subset \mathcal{L}_0(Y)$ is an irreducible divisor contracted by p . Then $D \subset R(p)$, hence D is a union of fibers of q . Therefore, $p(D)$ is a union of lines. Since D is irreducible and $\dim p(D) < \dim D = 2$, it is just one line L . But then $D \subset q^{-1}([L])$ is not a divisor.

Assume that p is birational. Since $\rho(\mathcal{L}_0(Y)) \geq 2$ and $\rho(Y) = 1$, the morphism p cannot be an isomorphism. Since Y is smooth, the exceptional locus of p should be a divisor contracted by p (see [Sha94, §2.3, Theorem 2]), which contradicts the above conclusions. \square

Remark 2.2.7. If Y is a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$ and $d(Y) = 4$ or 5 then the map p is finite of degree 4 and 3, respectively. This is no longer true in the cases $d(Y) = 3$ and $d(Y) = 2$. For a cubic threefold $Y \subset \mathbb{P}^4$ the map p has one-dimensional fibers exactly when Y contains *generalized Eckardt points*, i.e. points P such that the embedded tangent space at P cuts out a cone on Y . For example, the Fermat cubic contains 30 generalized Eckardt points. Similarly, there are examples of double covers of \mathbb{P}^3 branched in quartic surfaces (for example, over Fermat quartic surfaces) that contain points over which p is not finite.

The following result is well known (see e. g. [Isk80, Proposition III.1.3(iii)]).

Proposition 2.2.8. *Let Y be a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \geq 3$. Then the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(Y)$ is a smooth surface.*

Proof. By Corollary 2.1.6 it is enough to show that there are no 2-special lines. Since $d(Y) \geq 3$, the class H is very ample and defines an embedding $Y \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$. Consider the standard exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/\mathbb{P}^n} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{Y/\mathbb{P}^n}|_L \rightarrow 0.$$

Note that $\mathcal{N}_{L/\mathbb{P}^n} \cong \mathcal{O}_L(1)^{\oplus(n-1)}$. Thus $\mathcal{N}_{L/Y}$ is a subbundle in the direct sum of $n-1$ copies of $\mathcal{O}_L(1)$. This means that $\mathcal{N}_{L/Y}$ cannot have a summand isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_L(a)$ with $a \geq 2$. Hence L cannot be 2-special. \square

Remark 2.2.9. If $d(Y) = 2$, so that $f: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$ is a double cover of \mathbb{P}^3 branched in a smooth quartic surface S , the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(Y)$ is, in fact, a double cover of the subscheme of $\text{Gr}(2, 4)$ parameterizing bitangent lines to the surface S , branched in a finite number of points corresponding to lines contained in S . Moreover, if $L_0 \subset S$ is a line, and $L = f^{-1}(L_0)_{\text{red}}$, then L is a 2-special line on Y and hence $\Sigma(Y)$ is singular at L (cf. [Isk80, Remark to Proposition III.1.3]).

For Fano threefolds of index 2 and degree at least 3 one can identify $\Sigma(Y)$ explicitly.

Proposition 2.2.10. *Let Y be a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \geq 3$. Then $\Sigma(Y)$ is smooth and irreducible. Moreover*

- (i) *if $d(Y) = 3$, then $\Sigma(Y)$ is a minimal surface of general type with irregularity 5, geometric genus 10, and canonical degree $K_{\Sigma(Y)}^2 = 45$;*
- (ii) *if $d(Y) = 4$, then $\Sigma(Y)$ is an abelian surface;*
- (iii) *if $d(Y) = 5$, then $\Sigma(Y) \cong \mathbb{P}^2$.*

Proof. If $d(Y) = 3$, then Y is a cubic hypersurface in \mathbb{P}^4 , and the assertion holds by [AK77, §1]. If $d(Y) = 4$, then Y is a complete intersection of two quadrics in \mathbb{P}^5 , and the assertion holds by [NR69, Theorem 5] (see also [Rei72, Theorem 4.8], [DR76, Theorem 2], [GH78, §6.3]). If $d(Y) = 5$, then Y is isomorphic to a linear section $\text{Gr}(2, 5) \cap \mathbb{P}^6$ of the Grassmannian $\text{Gr}(2, 5) \subset \mathbb{P}^9$, and the assertion holds by [Isk80, Proposition III.1.6] or [FN89]. \square

Remark 2.2.11. The abelian surface $\Sigma(Y)$ associated to a Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = 4$ can be described as follows. Recall that such Y is an intersection of two quadrics in \mathbb{P}^5 . The corresponding pencil contains precisely 6 degenerate quadrics ([Rei72, Proposition 2.1]), so one can consider the double cover $B(Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ branched in these six points. This is a curve of genus 2. It can be regarded as a curve parameterizing the families of planes in the quadrics of our pencil. One can show that $\Sigma(Y)$ is isomorphic to the Jacobian of the curve $B(Y)$, see [NR69, Theorem 5]. Moreover, the surface $\Sigma(Y)$ is isomorphic to the intermediate Jacobian of Y (as an abstract variety), see [GH78, §6.4].

2.3. Hilbert schemes of conics. In this section we restrict to the case of smooth Fano threefolds X with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$ and their Hilbert schemes of conics $S(X)$. Let S_0 be an irreducible component of $S(X)$, and consider a reduced scheme structure

on S_0 . Restricting to S_0 the universal family of conics, we obtain a diagram

$$(2.3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{C}_0(X) & \\ q \swarrow & & \searrow p \\ S_0 & & X \end{array}$$

The map $q: \mathcal{C}_0(X) \rightarrow S_0$ is a conic bundle. Consider a conic C on X and let $[C] \in S_0$ be the corresponding point of the Hilbert scheme. The fiber $q^{-1}([C])$ is identified by the map p with the conic C . The normal bundle of C in $\mathcal{C}_0(X)$ is the trivial bundle of rank equal to the dimension of the tangent space to $[C]$ at S_0 . Like in (2.2.2), the differential of p is the map

$$(2.3.2) \quad dp: \mathcal{N}_{C/\mathcal{C}_0(X)} = T_{[C]}S_0 \otimes \mathcal{O}_C \hookrightarrow T_{[C]}S(X) \otimes \mathcal{O}_C = H^0(C, \mathcal{N}_{C/X}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}$$

with the last map being given by evaluation.

We will call an irreducible component of $S(X)$ *exotic* if it does not contain smooth conics. The next lemma shows that exotic components appear only for quartics with cones and describes them explicitly.

Lemma 2.3.3. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$, and suppose that $-K_X$ is very ample. Let $S_0 \subset S(X)$ be an exotic component. Then X is a quartic with a cone, and $S_0 \cong \text{Hilb}^2(B)$, where B is a smooth curve, which is the base of the cone. In particular, one has $\dim S_0 = 2$. Moreover, the irreducible component of $S(X)$ underlying S_0 is everywhere non-reduced.*

Proof. By Corollary 2.1.5 we have $\dim S_0 \geq 2$. On the other hand, by Lemma 2.2.3 every irreducible component of $\Sigma(X)$ is one-dimensional. Since a line L on X admits at most one structure of a non-reduced conic (see Remark 2.1.7), it follows that a conic corresponding to a general point of S_0 is a union of two distinct lines. Since X does not contain projections of the Veronese surface by Lemma 2.1.8(i), we deduce from Lemma A.1.1 that X contains a two-dimensional cone with base B such that S_0 is the set of conics formed by unions of rulings of the cone. In other words, one has

$$S_0 = \{L_{b_1} \cup L_{b_2} \mid (b_1, b_2) \in \text{Sym}^2(B)\}.$$

Moreover, X is a quartic threefold and B is a smooth curve by Lemma 2.1.8(ii). In particular, one has $\text{Sym}^2(B) \cong \text{Hilb}^2(B)$.

Note that when b_1 tends to $b_2 = b$, the reducible conic $L_{b_1} \cup L_{b_2}$ tends to a non-reduced conic C with $C_{\text{red}} = L_b$. It follows that every line L_b admits a structure of a non-reduced conic, hence is special, see Remark 2.1.7. Therefore, the irreducible component of $\Sigma(X)$ underlying B is everywhere non-reduced. By Corollary A.2.3 then it follows that the irreducible component of $S(X)$ underlying $\text{Hilb}^2(B)$ is also everywhere non-reduced. \square

Lemma 2.3.4. *If X is a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$ and $-K_X$ very ample then every irreducible component S_0 of the Hilbert scheme $S(X)$ of conics on X is two-dimensional. Moreover, if S_0 is not exotic, then the map $p: \mathcal{C}_0(X) \rightarrow X$ is surjective, generically finite, does not contract divisors, and is not birational. If S_0 is exotic, then X is a quartic and $p(\mathcal{C}_0(X))$ is a cone over a smooth curve.*

Proof. First, we note that p is surjective unless S_0 is exotic. Indeed, if the image of p is a surface $Z \subset X$ then $\dim S(Z) \geq \dim S_0 \geq 2$ by Corollary 2.1.5, hence by Lemma A.1.2 the

surface Z is a linear projection of the Veronese surface, which contradicts Lemma 2.1.8(i), or Z is a cone. In the latter case clearly S_0 is an exotic component.

Assume that $\dim S_0 = k \geq 3$. By Lemma 2.3.3 and Corollary 2.1.6 a general point of S_0 corresponds to a smooth special (and even 2-special) conic. The differential dp on such a conic has rank at most 1 everywhere, therefore the fibers of the map p have dimension $k - 1$, hence the image $p(\mathcal{C}_0(X))$ has dimension $k + 1 - (k - 1) = 2$. But then X contains a surface $Z = p(\mathcal{C}_0(X))$ with a k -dimensional family of conics on it. This is impossible by the argument above, thus $\dim S_0 = 2$.

Assume that S_0 is not exotic. Then p is surjective, and since $\dim \mathcal{C}_0(X) = 3 = \dim X$, the morphism p is generically finite. Consider the ramification locus $R(p)$ of the map p . Let C be a conic corresponding to a smooth point of S_0 . Then both $\mathcal{N}_{C/\mathcal{C}_0(X)}$ and $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}$ are vector bundles on C of rank 2 and Euler characteristic 2, see Lemma 2.1.4 and Corollaries A.2.3, and A.2.5. Hence the kernel and the cokernel of the map dp have the same rank and Euler characteristic. If the rank of the cokernel is 0, then so is the rank of the kernel. Since $\mathcal{N}_{C/\mathcal{C}_0(X)}$ is a trivial vector bundle, it is torsion free, so it follows that the kernel is zero. But then the cokernel is zero as well. This means that either the cokernel of the map dp is zero, hence the map p is unramified along C , or the support of the cokernel is either C , or if $C = L_1 \cup L_2$ is reducible, one of the lines L_i . This shows that away of the q -preimage of the singular locus of $S(X)$ the ramification locus $R(p)$ is the union of (irreducible components of) fibers of q . Now the argument of Lemma 2.2.6 (modified in an obvious way) shows that p cannot contract divisors and cannot be birational.

Finally, if S_0 is an exotic component, a description of Lemma 2.3.3 shows that X is a quartic, and $p(\mathcal{C}_0(X))$ is a cone over a smooth curve B . \square

Our next goal, as before, is a proof of smoothness of $S(X)$ and its explicit description for some X . The direct proof of smoothness is very complicated, since there are three types of conics and it is much more difficult to analyze the tangent space to the Hilbert scheme at a point corresponding to a reducible or non-reduced conic, and the corresponding obstruction space (see Appendix A.2, or [IM11, §3.2]). Typically such considerations work only for general Fano threefolds.

So, instead of using the above straightforward approach, we use the ideas of [Kuz09], where it was argued that the geometry of Fano threefolds of index 1 and even genus g is related to the geometry of Fano threefolds of index 2 and degree $d = g/2 - 1$. The reason for this is a similarity between the structure of their derived categories. Using this idea we will prove the following result.

Theorem 2.3.5. *Let X be a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and*

$$g(X) \in \{8, 10, 12\}.$$

Then there is a smooth Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and

$$d(Y) = \frac{g(X)}{2} - 1$$

such that $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$.

Since the proof of this result uses a completely different technique, we moved it to Appendix B. Actually, for $g(X) = 10$ and $g(X) = 12$ we identify the Hilbert schemes explicitly and show that these identifications match up, while for $g(X) = 8$ we construct a direct isomorphism of $S(X)$ and $\Sigma(Y)$.

Combining Theorem 2.3.5 with a description of Hilbert schemes of lines of index 2 threefolds and with some other results, we can state now the following

Proposition 2.3.6. *Let X be a (smooth) Fano threefold of index 1 and genus $g(X) \geq 7$. Then $S(X)$ is a smooth irreducible surface and*

- (i) *if $g(X) = 7$, then $S(X)$ is the symmetric square of a smooth curve of genus 7;*
- (ii) *if $g(X) = 8$, then $S(X)$ is a minimal surface of general type with irregularity 5, geometric genus 10, and canonical degree $K_{S(X)}^2 = 45$;*
- (iii) *if $g(X) = 9$, then $S(X)$ is a ruled surface that is a projectivization of a simple rank 2 vector bundle on a smooth curve of genus 3;*
- (iv) *if $g(X) = 10$, then $S(X)$ is an abelian surface;*
- (v) *if $g(X) = 12$, then $S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}^2$.*

Proof. If $g(X) = 7$, the assertion holds by [Kuz05, Theorem 6.3]. If $g(X) = 8$, the assertion holds by Theorem 2.3.5 and Proposition 2.2.10(i). If $g(X) = 9$, the surface $S(X)$ is ruled by [BF13, Proposition 3.10], and the simplicity of the corresponding vector bundle is proved in Lemma B.3.8. If $g(X) = 10$, the assertion holds by Theorem 2.3.5 and Proposition 2.2.10(ii). If $g(X) = 12$, the assertion holds by [KS04, Theorem 2.4] (alternatively, one can apply Theorem 2.3.5 and Proposition 2.2.10(iii) in this case). Smoothness of $S(X)$ is clear from the above case-by-case analysis. \square

Propositions 2.2.10 and 2.3.6 together give Theorem 1.1.1.

Remark 2.3.7. Note that if X is a Fano threefold of genus $g(X) \leq 6$, then the surface $S(X)$ may be singular and even reducible. For example, let $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$ be a double cover of a smooth Fano variety Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$ and $\iota(Y) = 2$ branched in a smooth anticanonical divisor. Then X is a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = d(Y) + 1$ (see Lemma 4.3.1 below), and $S(X)$ is a union of two irreducible components; one of them is identified with the Hilbert scheme of lines in Y , and the other is a double cover of the subvariety of the Hilbert scheme of conics $S(Y)$ bitangent to the branch divisor (see [Ili94, Proposition 2.1.2] for the case $g(X) = 6$).

For the sake of completeness, we conclude this section by a discussion of Hilbert schemes of conics on some Fano threefolds of Picard rank 1 and index 2. These results, of course, are well known to experts, however, we do not know a good reference for them except for the case $d(Y) = 5$. According to our conventions, we consider Hilbert schemes of conics only on those Fano threefolds whose ample generator of the Picard group is very ample. In the case of index 2 this means that $d(Y) \geq 3$. Recall the description of the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(Y)$ for these threefolds from Proposition 2.2.10. Also, recall that there is a curve $B(Y)$ of genus 2 associated to a Fano threefold Y of index 2 and degree 4, see Remark 2.2.11.

Proposition 2.3.8. *Let Y be a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \geq 3$. Then $S(Y)$ is a smooth fourfold, and*

- (i) *if $d(Y) = 3$, then $S(Y)$ is a \mathbb{P}^2 -bundle over the surface $\Sigma(Y)$.*
- (ii) *if $d(Y) = 4$, then $S(Y)$ is a \mathbb{P}^3 -bundle over the curve $B(Y)$.*
- (iii) *if $d(Y) = 5$, then $S(Y) \cong \mathbb{P}^4$.*

Proof. Let us start with assertion (i). Let $Y \subset \mathbb{P}^4$ be a smooth cubic hypersurface. The linear span of a conic $C \subset Y$ is a plane $\langle C \rangle \cong \mathbb{P}^2$. This plane is not contained in Y by

Lefschetz theorem, hence the intersection $\langle C \rangle \cap Y$ is a plane cubic curve, containing the conic C . This means that

$$\langle C \rangle \cap Y = C \cup L(C),$$

where $L(C)$ is a line (usually called the residual line of C). It is easy to see that the association $C \mapsto L(C)$ defines a regular map $S(Y) \rightarrow \Sigma(Y)$.

The fiber of the map over a point $[L] \in \Sigma(Y)$ is the space of all planes in \mathbb{P}^4 containing L (hence is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^2). Indeed, if Π is such a plane then $\Pi \cap Y = L \cup C(\Pi)$ with $C(\Pi)$ a conic, and conversely, every conic whose residual line is L spans a plane containing L . Altogether, this shows that

$$S(Y) \cong \Sigma(Y) \times_{\mathrm{Gr}(2,5)} \mathrm{Fl}(2, 3; 5),$$

where $\mathrm{Fl}(2, 3; 5)$ is the flag variety. Thus, we proved assertion (i).

The idea of the proof of assertion (ii) is similar to that for assertion (i). Let $Y \subset \mathbb{P}^5$ be a complete intersection of two quadrics. Given a conic $C \subset Y$, we consider its linear span $\langle C \rangle \subset \mathbb{P}^5$. The restriction to $\langle C \rangle$ of the pencil of quadrics defining Y is a pencil of conics containing C . This means that there is a unique quadric $Q(C)$ in the pencil defining Y that contains $\langle C \rangle$. In other words, the association $C \mapsto (Q(C), \langle C \rangle)$ defines a regular map

$$S(Y) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hilb}^{p(t)=(1+t)(2+t)/2}(\mathcal{Q}/\mathbb{P}^1)$$

into the relative Hilbert scheme of planes in the divisor $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathbb{P}^5 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ (defined by the pencil of quadrics) over \mathbb{P}^1 . For a smooth quadric $Q \subset \mathbb{P}^5$ the Hilbert scheme of planes $\mathrm{Hilb}^{p(t)=(1+t)(2+t)/2}(Q)$ is isomorphic to a union of two copies of \mathbb{P}^3 , while for a cone over a smooth quadric in \mathbb{P}^4 , it is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^3 . Altogether, this means that the Stein factorization for the canonical map $\mathrm{Hilb}^{p(t)=(1+t)(2+t)/2}(\mathcal{Q}/\mathbb{P}^1) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ is a composition of a \mathbb{P}^3 -bundle with a double cover $B(Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$, branched in the points of \mathbb{P}^1 corresponding to singular quadrics in the pencil. This proves assertion (ii).

For assertion (iii) see [San14, Proposition 2.32] or [Ili94, Proposition 1.2.2]. \square

3. AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS

In this section we remind some general results on automorphism groups of projective varieties, in particular showing that under appropriate conditions they are linear algebraic groups. We also discuss some general approaches to finiteness of automorphism groups. Throughout the section we work under rather general assumptions.

3.1. Actions on linear systems. Let X be a normal projective variety and let A be a Weil divisor on X . If the linear system $|A|$ is not empty, we denote by

$$\varphi_{|A|}: X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$$

the corresponding rational map. If the class of $[A]$ of A in $\mathrm{Cl}(X)$ is invariant with respect to a subgroup $\Gamma \subset \mathrm{Aut}(X)$, then there is a natural action of Γ on $\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$ and the map $\varphi_{|A|}$ is Γ -equivariant. Note also that the Γ -action on $\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$ is induced by an action on $H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee$ of a central extension

$$1 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\mu}_m \rightarrow \widetilde{\Gamma} \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow 1,$$

where $m = \dim H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))$. Indeed, the above exact sequence is the pullback of

$$1 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\mu}_m \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee) \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee) \rightarrow 1$$

via the map $\Gamma \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)) = \text{PGL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$. The induced map $\tilde{\Gamma} \rightarrow \text{SL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$ gives a $\tilde{\Gamma}$ -action on $H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee$.

Remark 3.1.1. Note that the action of Γ on $\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$ may not be induced by the action on $H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee$ of Γ itself, i.e. passing to a central extension above is indeed necessary. On the other hand, if the sheaf $\mathcal{O}_X(A)$ admits a Γ -linearization then the map $\Gamma \rightarrow \text{PGL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$ lifts to a map $\Gamma \rightarrow \text{GL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$.

The following lemma is easy and well known.

Lemma 3.1.2. *Let X be a normal projective variety and A be a Weil divisor on X . Let $\text{Aut}(X; [A])$ be the stabilizer of the class $[A] \in \text{Cl}(X)$ in $\text{Aut}(X)$. If the map $\varphi_{|A|}$ is birational onto its image then the action of $\text{Aut}(X; [A])$ on $\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$ is faithful. In particular, in this case $\text{Aut}(X; [A])$ is a linear algebraic group.*

Proof. If some element $g \in \text{Aut}(X; [A])$ acts trivially on $\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(A))^\vee)$, then by assumption it also acts trivially on an open dense subset of X , hence on the whole X . \square

Note that any multiple of the canonical class is invariant under the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X)$ and, moreover, has a natural $\text{Aut}(X)$ -linearization. Applying Lemma 3.1.2 and taking into account Remark 3.1.1, we obtain the following result.

Corollary 3.1.3. *Let X be a normal projective variety. Suppose that for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ (either positive or negative) the map $\varphi_{|mK_X|}$ is birational onto its image. Then the action of the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ on $\mathbb{P}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(mK_X))^\vee)$ is faithful and lifts to an embedding*

$$\text{Aut}(X) \hookrightarrow \text{GL}(H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(mK_X))^\vee).$$

In particular, $\text{Aut}(X)$ is a linear algebraic group.

Corollary 3.1.4. *Let $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$ be a normal complete intersection of dimension $\dim X \geq 3$ that is not contained in a hyperplane in \mathbb{P}^N . Then there is a natural embedding $\text{Aut}(X) \hookrightarrow \text{PGL}_{N+1}(\mathbb{k})$.*

Proof. By Lefschetz theorem one has $\text{Pic}(X) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot H$, where H is a hyperplane section (see e.g. [Har70, Corollary IV.3.2]). Thus, the embedding $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^N$ is given by an invariant linear system $|H|$, so the assertion follows from Lemma 3.1.2. \square

3.2. Finiteness results. Let us recall several easy finiteness results for automorphism groups of algebraic varieties.

Lemma 3.2.1. *If a linear algebraic group G acts faithfully on a variety X which is not ruled, then G is finite.*

Proof. If G is not finite, it contains a subgroup isomorphic to \mathbb{G}_m or \mathbb{G}_a . An open subset of X is covered by one-dimensional orbits of this subgroup, hence X is ruled, which is a contradiction. \square

Corollary 3.2.2. *Let X be a variety of Kodaira dimension $\kappa(X) \geq 0$. Suppose that a linear algebraic group G acts faithfully on X . Then G is finite.*

Proof. Since the linear system $|nK_X|$ is not empty for some $n > 0$, the variety X is not uniruled (see [MM86, Theorem 1]). Thus we can apply Lemma 3.2.1. \square

Corollary 3.2.3. *Let X be a variety of general type. Then the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ is finite.*

Proof. Apply Corollaries 3.1.3 and 3.2.2. \square

Remark 3.2.4. Actually, even the group of birational selfmaps of a variety of general type is finite, since it coincides with the automorphism group of its canonical model.

Another collection of finiteness results concerns hypersurfaces and complete intersections.

Theorem 3.2.5 (see [MM64]). *Let X be a smooth hypersurface of degree $d \geq 3$ in \mathbb{P}^N , where $N \geq 2$. Then the automorphism group of X is finite unless either $N = 2$ and $d = 3$, or $N = 3$ and $d = 4$.*

There are many classification results on automorphism groups of hypersurfaces of small degree, in particular, cubic hypersurfaces (see [Hos97], [Hos02], [Dol12, §9.5], [Adl78], [GAL11], [OY15]). Also, Theorem 3.2.5 has the following recent generalization.

Theorem 3.2.6 ([Ben13, Theorem 3.1], see also [CPZ15]). *If $X \subset \mathbb{P}^N$ is a smooth complete intersection of dimension $\dim X \geq 3$ and codimension $\operatorname{codim}(X) \geq 2$ not contained in a hyperplane in \mathbb{P}^N , then $\operatorname{Aut}(X)$ is finite.*

Another well-known finiteness result that we will need is as follows. Recall that a vector bundle \mathcal{E} is called *simple*, if $\operatorname{Hom}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}) = \mathbb{k}$.

Lemma 3.2.7. *Suppose that \mathcal{E} is a simple vector bundle on a projective scheme X . Then the group $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{P}_X(\mathcal{E})/X)$ of the automorphisms of the projectivization $\mathbb{P}_X(\mathcal{E})$ over X is finite.*

Proof. This is Corollary to Proposition 2 in [Gro58] (note also that the group denoted by Γ in [Gro58] is a subgroup in the 2-torsion subgroup of $\operatorname{Pic}(X)$, hence is finite). \square

Corollary 3.2.8. *If \mathcal{E} is a simple vector bundle on a curve C of genus $g > 1$, then the group $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{P}_C(\mathcal{E}))$ is finite.*

Proof. Indeed, the morphism $\mathbb{P}_C(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow C$ is canonical, hence there is an exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{P}_C(\mathcal{E})/C) \rightarrow \operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{P}_C(\mathcal{E})) \rightarrow \operatorname{Aut}(C).$$

The term on the left is finite by Lemma 3.2.7, and the term on the right is finite since $g > 1$, see Corollary 3.2.3. Therefore $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathbb{P}_C(\mathcal{E}))$ is finite. \square

4. FINITENESS FOR FANO THREEFOLDS

In this section we prove finiteness of automorphism groups for most of smooth Fano threefolds of Picard rank 1.

4.1. A faithfulness result. In this subsection we prove a general result on faithfulness of an automorphism group action on a Hilbert scheme of conics with respect to anticanonical class. In the next subsections we apply it to Hilbert schemes of lines on Fano threefolds of index 2 and Hilbert schemes of conics on Fano threefolds of index 1.

Let X be a smooth projective variety (of any dimension). Let S be an irreducible and reduced projective subscheme in a Hilbert scheme of curves on X , and $\mathcal{C} \subset S \times X$ is the corresponding family of curves, and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{C} & \\ q \swarrow & & \searrow p \\ S & & X \end{array}$$

the corresponding diagram of projections.

Theorem 4.1.1. *Assume that X is a smooth Fano variety of any dimension with $\text{Pic}(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ and $-K_X$ very ample. Assume that*

- *for general $s \in S$ the fiber \mathcal{C}_s of q is a smooth rational curve and $\mathcal{C}_s \cdot (-K_X) = 2$;*
- *the morphism p is dominant, not birational, and does not contract divisors.*

Let $G \subset \text{Aut}(X)$ be a nontrivial algebraic subgroup that acts trivially on S . Then the group G is cyclic of order 2, and a curve C corresponding to a general point of \mathcal{C} is the preimage of a curve $C' \subset X' = X/G$ under the quotient map $\pi: X \rightarrow X'$.

Furthermore, if $\dim X$ is odd then X' is smooth, and if $\dim X$ is even, then X' is either smooth or has one singular point of type $\frac{1}{2}(1, \dots, 1)$. In both cases the branch locus of π in X' is the union of a smooth anticanonical divisor B and $\text{Sing}(X')$.

Finally, X' is a Fano variety with $\text{Pic}(X') \cong \mathbb{Z}$, and the divisor $K_{X'}$ is divisible by 2 in the class group $\text{Cl}(X')$.

Proof. First let us show that G is finite. Since G is an algebraic group, it is enough to show that the connected component G^0 of identity in G is trivial. Since p is dominant and not birational, for the fiber $p^{-1}(x)$ over a general point $x \in X$ consists of more than one point. Thus there are two distinct curves C_1 and C_2 in the family \mathcal{C} that pass through x . Since the action of G^0 on S is trivial, we have $G^0(C_i) \subset C_i$, hence $G^0 \cdot x \subset C_1 \cap C_2$. Since C_1 and C_2 are distinct and irreducible, it follows that $G^0 \cdot x$ is finite. But G^0 is connected, hence $G^0 \cdot x = x$. Thus, a general point of X is fixed by $G^0 \subset \text{Aut}(X)$, hence G^0 is trivial. This means that the group G is finite.

Now let $G_0 \subset G$ be a cyclic subgroup of order $n > 1$. The action of G_0 on \mathcal{C} is fiberwise over S . Therefore, it has two fixed points on a general smooth fiber of q , so the fixed locus of G_0 in \mathcal{C} contains a divisor which intersects a general smooth fiber of q at two distinct points. Since the morphism $p: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow X$ contracts no divisors, the fixed locus of G_0 in X contains a divisor F which intersects a general smooth curve from \mathcal{C} at two points. Since $\text{Pic}(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, this means that $F \sim -K_X$. Put

$$V = H^0(X, \mathcal{O}(-K_X))^\vee,$$

so that $X \subset \mathbb{P}(V)$ is the anticanonical embedding. The action of G_0 on X induces an action on V by Corollary 3.1.3. The fixed divisor F generates a hyperplane $V_0 \subset V$ and we have a direct sum decomposition

$$V = V_0 \oplus V_1,$$

where V_0 and V_1 are eigen-spaces for (a generator of) $G_0 \cong \mu_n$, and V_1 is one-dimensional. It follows that the fixed locus of G_0 on $\mathbb{P}(V)$ is $\mathbb{P}(V_0) \sqcup \mathbb{P}(V_1)$, and its fixed locus on X is either $F = X \cap \mathbb{P}(V_0)$, or the union of F with the point $P = \mathbb{P}(V_1) \in \mathbb{P}(V)$ corresponding to the one-dimensional subspace $V_1 \subset V$ (if the point P lies on X).

Let $X' = X/G_0$ be the quotient with $\pi: X \rightarrow X'$ being the projection. If $P \in X$ then $P' = \pi(P)$ is a quotient singularity of type $\frac{1}{n}(1, \dots, 1)$ on X' and $X'_0 = X' \setminus P'$ is smooth; otherwise X' is smooth and we set $X'_0 = X'$. Put $X_0 = \pi^{-1}(X'_0)$ and $\pi_0 = \pi|_{X_0}$. Since π is a finite morphism, for any Weil divisor R on X' the pull-back π^*R is a well-defined Weil divisor (the closure of $\pi_0^{-1}(R|_{X'_0})$). Furthermore, one has

$$(4.1.2) \quad \text{Cl}(X') = \text{Cl}(X'_0) = \text{Pic}(X'_0), \quad \text{Cl}(X') \otimes \mathbb{Q} = (\text{Cl}(X) \otimes \mathbb{Q})^{G_0}.$$

Since $\pi_0: X_0 \rightarrow X'_0$ is a cyclic degree n cover with ramification divisor F , the class of the branch divisor $B = \pi_0(F) \subset X'_0$ is divisible by n in $\text{Pic}(X'_0)$, see e.g. [Wav68, Theorem 1.2], so that $B \sim nD$ for some $D \in \text{Pic}(X'_0)$ with $F \sim \pi_0^*D$.

Let C be a smooth curve corresponding to a general point of \mathcal{C} . Then C does not pass through P , since otherwise $p^{-1}(P) \subset \mathcal{C}$ would be a divisor contracted by p . Thus $C = \pi_0^*(\pi_0(C))$ and hence

$$(4.1.3) \quad 2 = C \cdot F = \pi_0^*(\pi_0(C)) \cdot \pi_0^*(D) = n\pi_0(C) \cdot D,$$

so n divides 2. Since $n > 1$ by our assumption, we have $n = 2$ and $G_0 \cong \mu_2$. Furthermore, since $n = 2$ by Hurwitz formula we have

$$\pi_0^*K_{X'_0} \sim K_{X_0} - F \sim -2F.$$

Applying π_{0*} we obtain

$$K_{X'_0} \sim -2D.$$

Thus the divisor $K_{X'}$ is divisible by 2 in $\text{Cl}(X')$.

If $\dim X$ is odd and $P \in X$, the image of $K_{X'}$ in the local class group $\text{Cl}(X', P') \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ is the generator. This shows that $P \notin X$ when $\dim X$ is odd, and hence $X' = X'_0$ is smooth.

Since $\pi: X \rightarrow X'$ is a double cover and $\pi^*K_{X'} \sim 2K_X$, it follows that $-K_{X'}$ is ample, i.e. X' is a Fano variety. By (4.1.2) we have $\rho(X') = 1$.

Finally, it remains to show that $G = G_0 \cong \mu_2$. We have already shown that any cyclic subgroup in G has order 2, hence $G \cong \mu_2^r$ for some r , and it remains to show that $r = 1$. Suppose that $r > 1$. Take two different involutions $\tau_1, \tau_2 \in G$. The action of the abelian group $G \cong \mu_2^r$ on $V = H^0(X, \mathcal{O}(-K_X))^\vee$ is diagonalizable. Thus we may assume that the action of τ_1 (respectively, τ_2) on V is given by $\text{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$ (respectively, $\text{diag}(1, -1, 1, \dots, 1)$). Then the action of $\tau_1 \circ \tau_2$ is given by $\text{diag}(-1, -1, 1, \dots, 1)$. But in this case the fixed point locus of $\tau_1 \circ \tau_2$ is cut out on X by a linear subspace of codimension 2. This contradicts our observation that the fixed point locus of any element of G contains a divisor. \square

4.2. Action on lines. We start with studying an action of the automorphism group of a smooth Fano threefold Y of Picard rank 1 and index 2 on its Hilbert scheme of lines. Recall the notation introduced in §2.1. In particular, for an irreducible component $\Sigma_0 \subset \Sigma(Y)$ of the Hilbert scheme of lines on Y we denote by $\mathcal{L}_0(Y)$ the corresponding component of the universal line, so that we have the diagram (2.2.1).

As we explained earlier, we are interested in proving faithfulness of the action of the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(Y)$ on the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$. In the next lemma we consider an irreducible component Σ_0 of $\Sigma(Y)$ and the subgroup $\text{Aut}_{\Sigma_0}(Y) \subset \text{Aut}(Y)$ stabilizing it. Although for $d(Y) \geq 3$ the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ is irreducible by Proposition 2.2.10, for $d(Y) = 2$ the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ might a priori have several components. This is why we formulate the lemma in this form.

Lemma 4.2.1. *Let Y be a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and assume that $-K_Y$ is very ample, i.e. $2 \leq d(Y) \leq 5$. Then the action of $\text{Aut}_{\Sigma_0}(Y)$ on an irreducible component Σ_0 of the Hilbert scheme of lines on Y is faithful. In particular, the action of $\text{Aut}(Y)$ on $\Sigma(Y)$ is faithful.*

Proof. Let $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\Sigma_0}(Y)$ be the kernel of the action of the group $\text{Aut}_{\Sigma_0}(Y)$ on Σ_0 . Suppose that G is nontrivial. Since $-K_Y$ is ample, the group G is a linear algebraic group by Corollary 3.1.3. By Lemma 2.2.6 the conditions of Theorem 4.1.1 are satisfied. Since $\dim Y = 3$ is odd, we conclude that there is a double cover $\pi: Y \rightarrow Y'$ over a smooth Fano variety Y' with $\rho(Y') = 1$. Since the branch divisor $B \subset Y'$ is anticanonical, it follows that $K_Y \sim \frac{1}{2}\pi^*K_{Y'}$, hence

$$K_Y^3 = \frac{1}{8} \cdot 2 \cdot K_{Y'}^3 = \frac{1}{4}K_{Y'}^3.$$

In particular, one has

$$-K_{Y'}^3 = -4K_Y^3 = 32 \, d(Y) \geq 64.$$

This is only possible if $Y' \cong \mathbb{P}^3$ (see Table 1). On the other hand, by Theorem 4.1.1 for a line L corresponding to a general point of Σ_0 we have $L = \pi^*L'$ for a curve $L' \subset Y'$, hence

$$(4.2.2) \quad 2 = -K_Y \cdot L = -\frac{1}{2}\pi^*K_{Y'} \cdot \pi^*L' = -K_{Y'} \cdot L'.$$

The right side of (4.2.2) is divisible by $\iota(Y') = \iota(\mathbb{P}^3) = 4$. This contradiction shows that G is trivial, hence the action of $\text{Aut}_{\Sigma_0}(Y)$ on Σ_0 is faithful. \square

Corollary 4.2.3. *Let Y be a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \geq 3$. The following assertions hold:*

- (i) *if $d(Y) = 3$ then $\text{Aut}(Y) \subset \text{Aut}(S)$ for a smooth minimal surface S of general type with irregularity 5, geometric genus 10, and canonical degree $K_{\Sigma(Y)}^2 = 45$;*
- (ii) *if $d(Y) = 4$ then $\text{Aut}(Y) \subset \text{Aut}(S)$ for an abelian surface S ;*
- (iii) *if $d(Y) = 5$ then $\text{Aut}(Y) \subset \text{Aut}(\mathbb{P}^2) \cong \text{PGL}_3(\mathbb{k})$.*

In particular, for $d(Y) = 3$ and $d(Y) = 4$, the group $\text{Aut}(Y)$ is finite.

Proof. Assertions (i), (ii) and (iii) follow from Proposition 2.2.10 and Lemma 4.2.1. Finiteness for $d(Y) = 3$ follows from assertion (i) and Corollary 3.2.3, while finiteness for $d(Y) = 4$ follows from assertion (ii) and Corollaries 3.1.3 and 3.2.2. \square

An alternative proof of finiteness of the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(Y)$ for $d(Y) = 3$ and $d(Y) = 4$ is by applying Theorems 3.2.5 and 3.2.6. For $d(Y) = 5$ one actually has

$$\text{Aut}(Y) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}),$$

see Theorem 5.1.1 below.

Remark 4.2.4. Besides its action on $\Sigma(Y)$, the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(Y)$ also acts on the intermediate Jacobian $J(Y)$ of Y . For $d(Y) = 3$ one can check that this action is faithful. Indeed, by [Bea82, §5] the intermediate Jacobian $J(Y)$ contains an $\text{Aut}(Y)$ -invariant theta divisor $\Theta \subset J(Y)$ (equal to the image of the canonical Abel–Jacobi map $\Sigma(Y) \times \Sigma(Y) \rightarrow J(Y)$). Moreover, Θ has a unique singular point $P \in \Theta$ (the image of the diagonal in $\Sigma(Y) \times \Sigma(Y)$) and the exceptional divisor of the blow up of Θ at P is $\text{Aut}(Y)$ -equivariantly isomorphic to Y . The faithfulness of the action on $J(Y)$ follows immediately.

For $d(Y) = 4$ one can show that the group $\text{Aut}(Y)$ contains a subgroup Γ of order 32 that acts trivially on the corresponding pencil of quadrics, and Γ contains a subgroup Γ_0 of order 16 that acts trivially on the associated curve of genus 2 mentioned in Remark 2.2.11, and also on the intermediate Jacobian of Y .

Finally, for $d(Y) = 5$ the intermediate Jacobian of Y is zero.

4.3. Action on conics. Now we will analyze the action of the automorphism group of a smooth Fano threefold X of Picard rank 1 and index 1 on the Hilbert scheme $S(X)$ of conics on X . We will assume that $H \sim -K_X$ is very ample; in particular, this means that $g(X) \geq 3$.

As in the case of lines, we are interested in proving faithfulness of the action of the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X)$ on $S(X)$, but by the same reason as in §4.2 we consider the action of the subgroup $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ stabilizing an irreducible component S_0 of $S(X)$. Note that we know irreducibility of $S(X)$ for $g(X) \geq 7$ (see Proposition 2.3.6), but already for $g(X) = 6$ the scheme $S(X)$ can be reducible (see Remark 2.3.7).

We start by discussing some cases when the action of the subgroup $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X) \subset \text{Aut}(X)$ on an irreducible component S_0 of $S(X)$ is not faithful.

Lemma 4.3.1. *Let Y be a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \geq 2$. Let $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$ be a double cover branched in a smooth anticanonical divisor $B \subset Y$. Then X is a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, $g(X) = d(Y) + 1$, and $S(X)$ has an irreducible component S_0 such that the action of $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ on it is not faithful.*

Proof. By the Hurwitz formula one has

$$(4.3.2) \quad K_X \sim \pi^*(\tfrac{1}{2}K_Y).$$

Hence X is a (smooth) Fano threefold.

We claim that $\rho(X) = 1$. First, assume that B is very general. Then by Noether–Lefschetz theorem (see [Voi07, Theorem 3.33]) we have $\text{Pic}(B) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, since B is very ample. On the other hand, the surface B is isomorphic to the ramification divisor of π in X . This divisor is ample, hence by Lefschetz theorem $\text{Pic}(X)$ embeds into $\text{Pic}(B)$, hence $\rho(X) = 1$. It remains to note that for a Fano variety the rank of the Picard group is equal to the second Betti number and hence is deformation invariant. Thus $\rho(X) = 1$ for all X .

By (4.3.2) one has $g(X) = d(Y) + 1$, and it is straightforward to check that $\iota(X) = 1$.

For every line $L \subset Y$ its preimage $\pi^{-1}(L) \subset X$ is a conic. This identifies the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ of lines in Y with an irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme $S(X)$ of conics in X , i.e.

$$\Sigma(Y) \cong S_0 \subset S(X).$$

The Galois involution of the double cover is an automorphism of X which acts trivially on S_0 , hence is contained in the kernel of $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ -action on S_0 . \square

Example 4.3.3. Assume that X is a quartic threefold with cones and $S_0 \subset S(X)$ is an exotic component (see Lemma 2.3.3). Then there may be a nontrivial subgroup in $\text{Aut}(X)$ acting trivially on S_0 . For example, assume that $X \subset \mathbb{P}^4$ is the Fermat quartic, consider a cone on X described in Example 2.1.9 and consider the action of the group μ_4 on \mathbb{P}^4 by the primitive character on the first two coordinates, and trivially on the last three coordinates. The equation of X is preserved by this action, hence μ_4 acts (faithfully) on X . On the other hand, its action on the base B of the cone is trivial, hence so is its action on $S_0 = \text{Hilb}^2(B)$.

In the next lemma we show that the situations of Lemma 4.3.1 and Example 4.3.3 are the only ones when the action of the automorphism group $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ on an irreducible component S_0 of $S(X)$ is not faithful, at least in the case of a very ample $-K_X$.

Lemma 4.3.4. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$ such that $-K_X$ is very ample, i.e. either $g(X) \geq 4$, or X is a quartic threefold. If the action of $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ on a non-exotic irreducible component S_0 of $S(X)$ is not faithful, then X is a double cover of a smooth Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = g(X) - 1 \geq 2$, the irreducible component S_0 corresponds to $\Sigma(Y)$ as in Lemma 4.3.1, and the kernel of the action of $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ on S_0 is generated by the Galois involution of the double cover.*

In particular, for $g(X) \geq 7$ the action of $\text{Aut}(X)$ on $S(X)$ is faithful.

Proof. Let $G \subset \text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ be the kernel of the action of the group $\text{Aut}_{S_0}(X)$ on S_0 . Suppose that G is nontrivial. The group G is a linear algebraic group by Corollary 3.1.3. If S_0 is not exotic then by Lemma 2.3.4 the conditions of Theorem 4.1.1 are satisfied. Since $\dim X = 3$ is odd, we conclude that there is a double cover $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$ over a smooth Fano variety Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$ (which corresponds to the variety X' of Theorem 4.1.1). The index of Y is even and $Y \not\cong \mathbb{P}^3$ (by the same reason as in the proof of Lemma 4.2.1, where we had a similar situation with the threefold Y' instead of Y), hence $\iota(Y) = 2$. Since the branch divisor $B \subset Y$ is anticanonical, it follows that $K_X \sim \frac{1}{2}\pi^*K_Y$, hence

$$K_X^3 = \frac{1}{8} \cdot 2 \cdot K_Y^3 = \frac{1}{4}K_Y^3, \quad d(Y) = -\frac{1}{8}K_Y^3 = -\frac{1}{2}K_X^3 = g(X) - 1.$$

Since $g(X) \geq 3$ it follows that $d(Y) \geq 2$. On the other hand, since $d(Y) \leq 5$, we have $g(X) \leq 6$, so for $g(X) \geq 7$ the action is faithful. \square

We suspect that for $g(X) \leq 6$ the action of $\text{Aut}(X)$ on $S(X)$ is still faithful.

Corollary 4.3.5. *Let X be a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and genus $g(X) \geq 7$. The following assertions hold:*

- (i) *if $g(X) = 7$ then $\text{Aut}(X) \subset \text{Aut}(C)$ for a smooth irreducible curve C of genus 7;*
- (ii) *if $g(X) = 8$ then $\text{Aut}(X) \subset \text{Aut}(S)$ for a minimal surface of general type with irregularity 5, geometric genus 10, and canonical degree $K_{S(X)}^2 = 45$;*
- (iii) *if $g(X) = 9$ then $\text{Aut}(X) \subset \text{Aut}(S)$ for a ruled surface S that is a projectivization of a simple rank 2 vector bundle on a smooth irreducible curve of genus 3;*
- (iv) *if $g(X) = 10$ then $\text{Aut}(X) \subset \text{Aut}(S)$ for an abelian surface S ;*
- (v) *if $g(X) = 12$ then $\text{Aut}(X) \subset \text{Aut}(\mathbb{P}^2) \cong \text{PGL}_3(\mathbb{k})$.*

In particular, if $7 \leq g(X) \leq 10$, then $\text{Aut}(X)$ is finite.

Proof. By Lemma 4.3.4 the action of $\text{Aut}(X)$ on the Hilbert scheme $S(X)$ of conics on X is faithful. Thus assertions (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) are implied by assertions (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) of Proposition 2.3.6, respectively. In case of assertion (i) we also take into account an isomorphism $\text{Aut}(\text{Sym}^2(C)) \cong \text{Aut}(C)$, see [Ran86].

Keeping in mind Corollary 3.2.3, we see that finiteness for $g(X) = 7$ and 8 is implied by assertions (i) and (ii) respectively. If $g(X) = 9$, finiteness is implied by Lemma 3.2.7 and assertion (iii). Finally, keeping in mind Corollary 3.1.3 and Lemma 3.2.1 we see that finiteness for $g(X) = 10$ is implied by assertion (iv). \square

As we will see in §5 some Fano threefolds of index 1 with $g(X) = 12$ actually have an infinite automorphism group.

4.4. Small degree and genus. As we have shown in Corollaries 4.2.3 and 4.3.5, for Fano threefolds of index 2 and degree $3 \leq d(Y) \leq 4$, and for Fano threefolds of index 1

and genus $7 \leq g(X) \leq 10$ the automorphism groups are always finite. In this subsection we show the same for smaller values of the degree and the genus.

We start with the cases when H is not very ample.

Lemma 4.4.1. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$. If the ample generator H of $\text{Pic}(X)$ is not very ample then the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ is finite.*

Proof. According to Tables 1 and 2 all such varieties are double covers

$$\varphi: X \rightarrow X',$$

where X' is a Fano threefold with $\text{Pic}(X') = \mathbb{Z} \cdot H'$ for some ample divisor H' on X' . In Table 3 we list all the possible situations. The first column of Table 3 lists the invariants of X . The second column describes X' ; here $\mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2)$ is the weighted projective space and Q is a three-dimensional quadric. The third column specifies the class in $\text{Pic}(X')$ of the branch divisor $B \subset X'$ of the double cover $\varphi: X \rightarrow X'$.

TABLE 3. Double covers

invariants of X	X'	B
$\iota(X) = 2, d(X) = 1$	$\mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2)$	$6H'$
$\iota(X) = 2, d(X) = 2$	\mathbb{P}^3	$4H'$
$\iota(X) = 1, g(X) = 2$	\mathbb{P}^3	$6H'$
$\iota(X) = 1, g(X) = 3$	Q	$4H'$

The map φ is anticanonical in all cases except when $\iota(X) = 2$ and $d(X) = 2$; in the latter case it is defined by the complete linear system of the divisor $H \sim -\frac{1}{2}K_X$. In particular, φ is equivariant with respect to the whole automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X)$, hence we have a natural map

$$(4.4.2) \quad \text{Aut}(X) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(X'; B)$$

into the group of automorphisms of X' preserving B . Since

$$X = \text{Spec}_{X'}(\mathcal{O}_{X'} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{X'}(-\tfrac{1}{2}B)),$$

and the structure of the algebra is determined by B , it follows that the map (4.4.2) is surjective. Its kernel is clearly generated by the Galois involution of the double cover φ , hence is isomorphic to μ_2 .

On the other hand, one can check that the divisor H' is very ample in all cases, so that all automorphisms of X' are restricted from the corresponding projective space by Corollary 3.1.3. Since B is not contained in a hyperplane in this embedding, we see that the natural map

$$\text{Aut}(X'; B) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(B; [H'])$$

into the group of automorphisms of B preserving the (class in $\text{Pic}(B)$ of the) restriction of H' to B is injective. Thus we have an exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \mu_2 \rightarrow \text{Aut}(X) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(B; [H']).$$

It remains to notice that in every case B is smooth and its canonical bundle is nef by adjunction formula, hence $\text{Aut}(B; [H'])$ is finite by Lemma 3.1.2 and Corollary 3.2.2. \square

Now we will combine the above results with Theorems 3.2.5 and Theorem 3.2.6.

Proposition 4.4.3. *If Y is a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) \leq 4$ then the group $\text{Aut}(Y)$ is finite. If X is a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) \leq 10$ then the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ is finite.*

Proof. First, let Y be a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$ and $\iota(Y) = 2$. If $d(Y) \in \{1, 2\}$, then the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(Y)$ is not very ample, and we apply Lemma 4.4.1. If $d(Y) \in \{3, 4\}$, then we apply Corollary 4.2.3.

Second, let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$ and $\iota(X) = 1$. If $g(X) = 2$ or $g(X) = 3$ and $-K_X$ is not very ample, we apply Lemma 4.4.1. If $g(X) = 3$ and $-K_X$ is very ample then X is a quartic in \mathbb{P}^4 and we apply Theorem 3.2.5. If $g(X) = 4$ or $g(X) = 5$, then X is a complete intersection in a projective space of multidegree $(2, 3)$ and $(2, 2, 2)$ respectively, and we apply Theorem 3.2.6. If $g(X) = 6$ we refer to [DK15, Proposition 3.25]. Finally, if $7 \leq g(X) \leq 10$, we apply Corollary 4.3.5. \square

To complete the proof of Theorem 1.1.2, we need to describe the automorphism groups of Fano threefolds of index 2 and degree 5, and of index 1 and genus 12. This is done in the next section.

5. INFINITE AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS

We already know that the only Fano threefolds of index 1 and 2 which can have infinite automorphism groups are a threefold Y with $\iota(Y) = 2$ and $d(Y) = 5$, and some of the threefolds X with $\iota(X) = 1$ and $g(X) = 12$.

5.1. Quasihomogeneous Fano threefolds. We start with a detailed description of the Fano threefold Y with $\iota(Y) = 2$ and $d(Y) = 5$. From the classification it is known that Y is isomorphic to a linear section of the Grassmannian $\text{Gr}(2, 5) \subset \mathbb{P}^9$ by a subspace $\mathbb{P}^6 \subset \mathbb{P}^9$ (see Table 1). According to [Isk80, Theorem II.1.1] or [IP99, 3.3.1–3.3.2] such Y is unique up to isomorphism.

For our purposes, however, the description of Y suggested by Mukai and Umemura [MU83] is more convenient. Let

$$M_d = \text{Sym}^d(\mathbb{k}^2)^\vee$$

be the space of binary forms of degree d . We denote by x and y the elements of the standard basis of the vector space $(\mathbb{k}^2)^\vee$, so that elements of M_d are polynomials of degree d in x and y . The group $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ acts naturally on the space M_d by the rule

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : x \mapsto ax + cy, \quad y \mapsto bx + dy,$$

and on the projective space $\mathbb{P}(M_d)$. Consider the form

$$\phi_6(x, y) = xy(x^4 - y^4) \in M_6$$

and the corresponding point $[\phi_6] \in \mathbb{P}(M_6) \cong \mathbb{P}^6$.

Theorem 5.1.1 ([MU83], [CS16, Proposition 7.1.10]). *The stabilizer of $[\phi_6]$ is the octahedral group*

$$\text{Oct} \cong \mathfrak{S}_4 \subset \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}),$$

and the closure of its orbit

$$Y = \overline{\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}) \cdot [\phi_6]} \subset \mathbb{P}^6$$

is a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$ and $d(Y) = 5$ embedded by the linear system $|-\frac{1}{2}K_Y|$. The automorphism group of Y is $\text{Aut}(Y) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$.

For the purposes of this section we need a notation for the standard connected subgroups in $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$. We denote by

- $B_2 \subset \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ the standard Borel subgroup (upper triangular matrices),
- $U_2 \subset \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ the standard unipotent subgroup (upper triangular matrices with units on the diagonal), and
- $T_2 \subset \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ the standard torus (diagonal matrices).

We will also need a description of the $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ -orbits on Y (see [MU83, Lemma 1.5]). The orbit decomposition of Y is

$$Y = \text{Orb}_3(Y) \sqcup \text{Orb}_2(Y) \sqcup \text{Orb}_1(Y)$$

with $\text{Orb}_k(Y)$ standing for the unique orbit of dimension k , and

$$\text{Orb}_3(Y) = \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}) \cdot [\phi_6] \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})/\text{Oct},$$

$$\text{Orb}_2(Y) = \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}) \cdot [xy^5] \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})/T_2,$$

$$\text{Orb}_1(Y) = \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}) \cdot [x^6] \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})/B_2.$$

It is clear from this description that $\text{Orb}_3(Y)$ is a normal rational sextic curve, and that

$$\overline{\text{Orb}_2(Y)} = \text{Orb}_2(Y) \cup \text{Orb}_1(Y)$$

is the image of $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ under the map

$$\nu: \mathbb{P}(M_1) \times \mathbb{P}(M_1) \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}(M_6), \quad (f, g) \mapsto fg^5.$$

It also follows from this description that any irreducible curve contained in $\overline{\text{Orb}_2(Y)}$ is either a line $\nu(\mathbb{P}(M_1) \times \{g\})$ (these are special lines on Y , see §2.1), or a normal rational quintic

$$(5.1.2) \quad Z_{\text{MU}} = \nu(\{f\} \times \mathbb{P}(M_1)) \subset Y,$$

or has degree greater than 5. The reason for the notation in (5.1.2) will become clear later.

There is also a similar example of a Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 12$, that was also found by Mukai and Umemura. Consider the form

$$\phi_{12}(x, y) = xy(x^{10} + 11x^5y^5 + y^{10}) \in M_{12}$$

and the point

$$v = (\phi_{12}, 1) \in \mathbb{P}(M_{12} \oplus M_0) \cong \mathbb{P}^{13}.$$

Theorem 5.1.3 ([MU83]). *The stabilizer of $[v]$ is the icosahedral group*

$$\text{Icos} \cong \mathfrak{A}_5 \subset \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}),$$

and the closure of its orbit

$$X^{\text{MU}} = \overline{\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}) \cdot [v]} \subset \mathbb{P}^{13}$$

is a smooth anticanonically embedded Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 12$. The automorphism group of X is $\text{Aut}(X) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$.

Note, however, that X^{MU} is only one variety from a six-dimensional parameter space of Fano threefolds of this type.

5.2. The double projection. A description of other Fano threefolds of index 1 and genus 12 is based on the double projection method.

Theorem 5.2.1 ([Isk89], [Pro92], [IP99, Theorem 4.3.7]). *The following assertions hold:*

- (i) *Let X be a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 12$, and let $L \subset X$ be a line. Then the linear system $|H_X - 2L|$, where H_X is the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(X)$, defines a birational map of X onto a smooth Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = 5$.*
- (ii) *Let Y be the smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = 5$, and let*

$$Z \subset Y \subset \mathbb{P}^6$$

be a normal rational quintic curve. Then the linear system $|3H_Y - 2Z|$, where H_Y is the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(Y)$, defines a birational map of Y onto a smooth Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 12$.

The constructions of (i) and (ii) are mutually inverse, and the birational transformation between X and Y can be described by a diagram

$$(5.2.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & X' & \xleftarrow{\quad} Y' \\ \sigma_X \swarrow & & \searrow \sigma_Y \\ X & \xrightarrow{\quad \xi \quad} & Y \end{array}$$

where the morphism σ_X is the blow up of L , the morphism σ_Y is the blow up of Z , and the dashed arrow is a flop.

Remark 5.2.3. In the above diagram, the map $\xi: X \dashrightarrow Y$ contracts a divisor which is a unique member of the linear system $|H_X - 3L|$. Similarly, the map $\xi^{-1}: Y \dashrightarrow X$ contracts a divisor which is a unique member of the linear system $|H_Y - Z|$.

Thus, to produce an example of X with an infinite automorphism group, we need to find a normal rational quintic Z stabilized by an infinite subgroup of $\text{Aut}(Y) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$. Below we construct some examples of these, and after that we will show that this gives all possible examples of X with an infinite automorphism group.

Recall the notation for subgroups B_2 , U_2 and T_2 of $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ introduced above.

Example 5.2.4 ([Pro90a]). It is straightforward to see that the curve

$$(5.2.5) \quad Z_a = \overline{U_2 \cdot [\phi_6]} \subset Y \subset \mathbb{P}(M_6)$$

is a normal rational quintic curve. We note that

$$Z_a \cap \text{Orb}_3(Y) = U_2 \cdot [\phi_6] \cong \mathbb{A}^1, \quad Z_a \cap \text{Orb}_2(Y) = \emptyset, \quad Z_a \cap \text{Orb}_3(Y) = [x^6].$$

We denote by X^a the Fano threefold of index 1 and genus 12 corresponding to the quintic Z_a via the construction of Theorem 5.2.1.

Proposition 5.2.6. *One has $\text{Aut}(X^a) \cong \mathbb{G}_a \rtimes \mu_4$.*

Proof. We use the construction of Theorem 5.2.1. Consider the element

$$\tau = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$$

acting on $Y \subset \mathbb{P}(M_6)$. Clearly, τ normalizes the subgroup $U_2 \cong \mathbb{G}_a$ of $\text{Aut}(Y) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ and preserves the point $[\phi_6] \in \mathbb{P}(M_6)$. Therefore, the semidirect product $U_2 \rtimes \mu_4$ (considered as a subgroup in $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ generated by τ and U_2) preserves the curve Z_a . Consequently, it acts on the diagram (5.2.2) and, in particular, on the threefold X^a . Its action on a common open subset of X^a and Y is faithful, hence gives an embedding

$$U_2 \rtimes \mu_4 \hookrightarrow \text{Aut}(X^a).$$

To prove that this embedding is an isomorphism, let us describe the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(X^a)$ explicitly. Let $L_0 \subset X^a$ be the line on X^a obtained by construction of Theorem 5.2.1. Note that if L is a line on X^a that does not intersect L_0 , then L intersects the divisor contracted by the map ξ at a unique point P (see Remark 5.2.3), and by Theorem 5.2.1 its proper transform under the rational map ξ is a line L' in Y intersecting the quintic Z_a at the point $P' = \xi(P)$. Since there is at most a finite number of lines L on X^a intersecting L_0 (each of them is a flopping curve in (5.2.2)), it follows that there is a rational map

$$\Sigma(X^a) \dashrightarrow \Sigma_{Z_a}(Y)$$

onto the scheme $\Sigma_{Z_a}(Y)$ parameterizing pairs (L', P') , where $L' \subset Y$ is a line and P' is a point on $L' \cap Z_a$, and this map is well defined at a general point of every irreducible component of $\Sigma(X^a)$.

Since the map $p: \mathcal{L}_0(Y) \rightarrow Y$, see (2.2.1), is a triple covering branched along $\overline{\text{Orb}}_2(Y)$ (see [FN89]), it follows from the description of Example 5.2.4 that there is a triple cover

$$\Sigma_{Z_a}(Y) \rightarrow Z_a \cong \mathbb{P}^1, \quad (L', P') \mapsto P'$$

branched only at the point $[x^6]$. It follows that $\Sigma_{Z_a}(Y)$ is a union of three irreducible components, and each of them is isomorphic to \mathbb{P}^1 and contains a point corresponding to the unique line passing through the point $[x^6]$.

One of these irreducible components parameterizes lines contained in the divisor contracted by the map ξ^{-1} (see Remark 5.2.3), hence does not correspond to a component of $\Sigma(X^a)$. The other two correspond to irreducible components $\Sigma_1(X^a)$ and $\Sigma_2(X^a)$ of $\Sigma(X)$. Since $\Sigma(X^a)$ is purely one-dimensional by Lemma 2.2.3, we conclude that

$$\Sigma(X^a) = \Sigma_1(X^a) \cup \Sigma_2(X^a).$$

Consider the action of τ on the irreducible components of $\Sigma_{Z_a}(Y)$ and $\Sigma(X^a)$. Clearly, the irreducible component of the former scheme corresponding to the surface contracted by the map ξ^{-1} is fixed by τ . On the other hand, the lines through the point $[\phi_6]$ are in bijection with the axes of an octahedron, hence an element $\tau \in \text{Oct}$ of order 4 permutes them nontrivially, so it should interchange the other two irreducible components of $\Sigma_{Z_a}(Y)$ and hence also the two irreducible components of $\Sigma(X^a)$.

Since the line L_0 is $(U_2 \rtimes \mu_4)$ -invariant by construction, the point of $\Sigma(X^a)$ corresponding to it belongs to both irreducible components of $\Sigma(X^a)$. Every other intersection point of the irreducible components of $\Sigma(X^a)$ should be U_2 -invariant, and since a rational curve with a faithful action of $U_2 \cong \mathbb{G}_a$ has at most one fixed point, it follows finally that

$$\Sigma_1(X^a) \cap \Sigma_2(X^a) = [L_0].$$

The last equality implies that $[L_0]$ is invariant with respect to the whole automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X^a)$. Hence $\text{Aut}(X^a) \subset \text{Aut}(Y; Z_a)$. On the other hand, it is easy to see that $\text{Aut}(Y; Z_a) \cong U_2 \rtimes \mu_4$. This proves the proposition. \square

Example 5.2.7 ([Pro90a]). For every parameter $u \in \mathbb{k}$ put

$$\phi_{6,u}(x, y) = x(ux + y)(x^4 - (ux + y)^4).$$

Clearly, one has

$$\phi_{6,u} \in \mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k}) \cdot [\phi_6] \subset \mathrm{Orb}_3(Y) \subset Y.$$

It is straightforward to see that as soon as

$$u(u^4 - 1)(5u^4 - 1) \neq 0,$$

the curve

$$(5.2.8) \quad Z_m(u) = \overline{T_2 \cdot [\phi_{6,u}]}$$

is a normal rational quintic curve (for $u(u^4 - 1) = 0$ the orbit closure is a quartic curve, and for $5u^4 - 1 = 0$ it is a non-normal quintic curve). We denote by $X^m(u)$ the Fano threefold of index 1 corresponding to it via the construction of Theorem 5.2.1.

Now finally, we can classify all Fano threefolds of index 1 and genus 12 with infinite automorphism groups.

Theorem 5.2.9 (see [Pro90a]). *Let X be a (smooth) Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 12$. Then the automorphism group of X is finite unless X is one of the varieties X^{MU} , X^a , or $X^m(u)$ described in Theorem 5.1.3 and Examples 5.2.4 and 5.2.7.*

Proof. Let B denote a maximal solvable (Borel) subgroup of the connected component $\mathrm{Aut}^0(X)$ of identity in the group $\mathrm{Aut}(X)$. The group $\mathrm{Aut}(X)$ is finite if and only if B is trivial. Also, the group B acts on the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(X)$ lying in X , and by the fixed-point theorem [Hum75, Theorem VIII.21.2] there exists a B -invariant line $L \subset X$. Then the double projection diagram (5.2.2) is B -equivariant and the curve Z is B -invariant. So it remains to note that by Lemma 5.2.10 below the curve Z is $\mathrm{Aut}(Y)$ -conjugate to one of the curves Z_{MU} , Z_a , or $Z_m(u)$, hence X is isomorphic to one of the threefolds X^{MU} , X^a , or $X^m(u)$. \square

Lemma 5.2.10. *Assume that $Z \subset Y$ is a rational normal quintic curve, invariant with respect to a connected solvable algebraic group $1 \neq B \subset \mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$. Then Z is conjugate under the action of $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ to one of the curves described by (5.1.2), (5.2.5), or (5.2.8).*

Proof. Since the subgroup $B \subset \mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$ is conjugate to one of the subgroups B_2 , T_2 , or U_2 discussed in §5.1, we can without loosing generality assume that B is one of these subgroups. Let us consider these cases one-by-one.

First, assume that $B = B_2$. Since $Z \cong \mathbb{P}^1$, every point of Z has a nontrivial one-dimensional stabilizer in B , hence $Z \subset \overline{\mathrm{Orb}}_2(Y)$. From the description of $\overline{\mathrm{Orb}}_2(Y)$ it easily follows that Z is conjugate to Z_{MU} .

Moreover, the quintics Z_{MU} are the only smooth rational quintics contained in $\overline{\mathrm{Orb}}_2(Y)$, so from now on we may assume that $Z \not\subset \overline{\mathrm{Orb}}_2(Y)$. An arbitrary point of the open orbit $\mathrm{Orb}_3(U)$ can be written as

$$\varphi = fg(f^4 - g^4),$$

where f and g are linear forms in x and y , so we may assume that Z is the closure of the B -orbit of φ .

Now, assume that $B = U_2$. For general f and g the U_2 -orbit closure of φ is a curve of degree 6. For it to have degree 5, it is necessary for φ to be divisible by x . Conjugating by an element of Oct , we may assume that $f = x$ (up to a scalar multiple). But then (again up to a scalar multiple) φ should be equal to

$$\phi_{6,u,v}(x,y) = x(ux + vy)(x^4 - (ux + vy)^4), \quad u \in \mathbb{k}, v \in \mathbb{k}^\times.$$

Such point is obtained from ϕ_6 by a B_2 -action. But the group B_2 normalizes the subgroup $U_2 \subset \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$, hence Z is conjugate to the closure of the U_2 -orbit of ϕ_6 , i.e. to Z_a .

Finally, assume that $B = T_2$. Again, for general f and g the T_2 -orbit closure of φ has degree 6, and the degree is smaller if and only if φ is divisible by x or y . Conjugating by an element of Oct we again may assume that $f = x$, i.e. $\varphi = \phi_{6,u,v}$. But this point is in the T_2 -orbit of $\phi_{6,u}$, hence Z is conjugate to $Z_m(u)$. \square

Therefore, we have proved Theorem 5.2.9. Combining it with Proposition 4.4.3 we obtain Theorem 1.1.2.

Remark 5.2.11. Varieties X^{MU} and X^a are unique up to isomorphism. Varieties $X^{m,u}$ form a one-dimensional family with u being parameter.

Remark 5.2.12. In the cases $X = X^{\text{MU}}$ and $X = X^m(u)$ the method we used to prove Theorem 5.2.9 does not give a description of the whole automorphism group of X , because we cannot ensure that the line $L \subset X$ from which we project is invariant under the whole automorphism group; actually, this is never the case. Indeed, in the case $X = X^{\text{MU}}$ the diagram (5.2.2) is only B_2 -equivariant, while $\text{Aut}(X^{\text{MU}}) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{k})$, and in the case $X = X^m(u)$ the diagram is only T_2 -invariant, while the actual automorphism group of $X^m(u)$ is strictly larger, see [DKK15, Proposition 5.1].

Remark 5.2.13. One can also use the approach of Theorem 5.2.9 to establish finiteness of the automorphism group of an arbitrary smooth Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $7 \leq g(X) \leq 10$, see [Pro90a] for details.

Remark 5.2.14. According to S. Mukai [Muk89] (see also [Muk92], [Sch01]) any Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$ and $g(X) = 12$ can be realized as a variety of sums of powers that parameterizes polar hexagons of a plane quartic curve. In this construction, X^{MU} corresponds to the double conic (see Fig. 1a) and X^a corresponds to the reducible quartic whose irreducible components are conics tangent to each other with multiplicity 4 (see Fig. 1b). Varieties $X^m(u)$ correspond to reducible quartics whose irreducible components are conics tangent to each other at two points (see Fig. 1c); these form a one-dimensional family. Some details can be found in [DKK15].

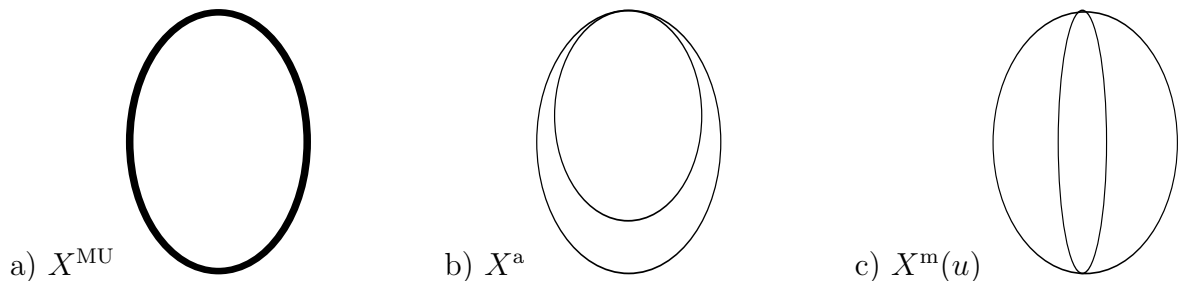


FIGURE 1.

APPENDIX A. SOME STANDARD RESULTS ON CONICS

In this section we collect some well-known results about conics. We refer to §2.1 for our notation and conventions.

A.1. Conics on surfaces. For any variety $Z \subset \mathbb{P}^N$ we denote by $\Sigma(Z)$ and $S(Z)$ the Hilbert schemes of lines and conics contained in Z , respectively, see §2.1.

Lemma A.1.1. *Let $Z \subset \mathbb{P}^N$ be an integral variety such that $\dim \Sigma(Z) \leq 1$. Suppose that there is an irreducible two-dimensional closed subset $S_0 \subset S(Z)$ such that a general point of S_0 corresponds to a reducible (reduced) conic. Then either Z contains a cone over a curve B and $S_0 \cong \text{Sym}^2(B)$, or Z contains a smooth quadric surface.*

Proof. Since a general point of S_0 corresponds to a reducible conic, one of the two possibilities occur: either $\Sigma(Z)$ has a one-dimensional irreducible component Σ_0 such that any two lines corresponding to its points meet each other, or $\Sigma(Z)$ has two one-dimensional irreducible components Σ_1 and Σ_2 such that every line corresponding to a point of Σ_1 meets every line corresponding to a point of Σ_2 .

Suppose that the first possibility occurs. Take two different lines L'_0 and L''_0 corresponding to the points of Σ_0 . They intersect at a point, say P , and span a plane, say Π . A general line corresponding to a point of Σ_0 intersects both L'_0 and L''_0 . Therefore either it passes through P (hence these lines sweep a cone that gives the first option listed in the assertion of the lemma with $B = \Sigma_0$), or it is contained in Π (hence these lines sweep the plane Π , in which case $\Sigma(Z)$ is two-dimensional, which is a contradiction).

Now suppose that the second possibility occurs. Take two lines L'_1 and L''_1 corresponding to points of Σ_1 . We may assume that they do not intersect each other (otherwise we are in the situation considered above). Then it easily follows that lines corresponding to the points of Σ_2 sweep a $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ in the Segre embedding, i.e. a smooth quadric surface. \square

The following classically known result whose proof can be obtained by combining the results of [Cas94] and [Seg21] is very useful.

Lemma A.1.2. *Let $Z \subset \mathbb{P}^N$ be an integral surface. Assume that $\dim S(Z) \geq 2$ and Z is not a cone. Then Z is the Veronese surface*

$$v_2(\mathbb{P}^2) \subset \mathbb{P}^5,$$

or its linear (regular or rational) projection. In particular, one has $\deg Z \leq 4$.

Moreover, if Z contains a one-dimensional family of lines, then Z is a cubic scroll

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(\mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2)) \subset \mathbb{P}^4,$$

or its linear projection, so that $\deg Z \leq 3$.

Proof. We use the ideas and methods from the proofs of [Rus16, Theorem 3.4.1] and [Rus16, Theorem 3.4.4].

First, consider the Hilbert scheme of lines $\Sigma(Z)$ and the diagram (2.2.1). Note that the map $p: \mathcal{L}(Z) \rightarrow Z$ cannot have fibers of positive dimension, since otherwise Z would be a cone. In particular, this implies that $\dim \Sigma(Z) \leq 1$.

Let S_0 be an irreducible component of $S(Z)$ such that $\dim S_0 \geq 2$. Note that a smooth quadric can be represented as a linear projection of a cubic scroll, and thus also as a projection of the Veronese surface. Therefore, by Lemma A.1.1 we can assume that a general point of S_0 corresponds to a smooth conic.

Suppose that $\dim \Sigma(Z) = 1$. Let $\Sigma_0 \subset \Sigma(Z)$ be a one-dimensional irreducible component and let $q: \mathcal{L}_0(Z) \rightarrow \Sigma_0$ be the corresponding universal family. Thus we have a finite surjective morphism

$$p: \mathcal{L}_0(Z) \rightarrow Z \subset \mathbb{P}^N.$$

If p is not birational then general lines L_1 and L_2 corresponding to the points of Σ_0 meet each other. Hence one can take $L_1, L_2 \subset Z$ so that $L_1 \cap L_2 \neq \emptyset$ and a general line L corresponding to a point of Σ_0 meets both L_1 and L_2 . This is possible only if $Z \cong \mathbb{P}^2$ is a linear subspace in \mathbb{P}^N , in which case Z is a cone. Thus the morphism p is birational.

Let B be the normalization of Σ_0 and $Z_0 = B \times_{\Sigma_0} \mathcal{L}_0(Z)$ the pullback to B of the universal family over Σ_0 . Then Z_0 is a ruled surface over B . Since p is birational, the preimage in Z_0 of a general conic in Z is a rational curve that projects nontrivially to B . Hence B is rational and so

$$Z_0 \cong \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-e)),$$

for some $e \geq 0$. Denote by s the class of the exceptional section of Z_0 and by f the class of the fiber. The map $Z_0 \rightarrow Z \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^N$ is given by a subsystem of the linear system $|s + nf|$ for some integer n . Note that $n \geq e$ (otherwise the linear system has base points on the exceptional section), and if $n = e$ then the image of Z_0 is a cone. Thus one has $n > e$. Assume further that (the preimage on Z_0 of) the class of a non-degenerate conic $C \subset Z$ corresponding to a general point of S_0 is $as + bf$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then we have

$$2 = (as + bf)(s + nf) = -ae + b + an = b + (n - e)a.$$

On the other hand, since C is irreducible and movable, we see that $b \geq ea \geq 0$. Moreover, we have $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$ because $\dim S(Z) \geq 2$. Taking this into account we get

$$a = b = 1, \quad e \leq 1, \quad n = e + 1.$$

If $e = 0$ we conclude that Z is a linear projection of a quadric $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \subset \mathbb{P}^3$, and if $e = 1$ we conclude that Z is a linear projection of the cubic scroll

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1)) \cong \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(\mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2))$$

embedded into \mathbb{P}^4 via the linear system $|s + 2f|$. Both can also be represented as linear projections of the Veronese surface. This finishes the proof in the case when $\dim \Sigma(Z) = 1$.

From now on we assume that $\Sigma(Z)$ is at most finite. Choose a sufficiently general point $z \in Z$. Then z is a smooth point of Z that does not lie on a line. Therefore, all conics passing through z are irreducible, and in particular smooth at z .

Let S_z be the subscheme of $S(Z)$ parameterizing the conics that pass through the point z , and $q_z: \mathcal{C}_z \rightarrow S_z$ be the corresponding universal family. Since all conics of S_z are smooth at z , the point z defines a section $\Pi \subset \mathcal{C}_z$ of the fibration q_z .

Let $p_z: \mathcal{C}_z \rightarrow Z$ be the tautological morphism. By [Kol96, Proposition V.3.7.5] this morphism is birational. Clearly, Π is the scheme-theoretical preimage of z . Since Π is a Cartier divisor on \mathcal{C}_z , the map p_z lifts to a map $\tilde{p}_z: \mathcal{C}_z \rightarrow \tilde{Z}$, where $\sigma: \tilde{Z} \rightarrow Z$ is the blow up of the point z . Thus we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{C}_z & \xrightarrow{\tilde{p}_z} \tilde{Z} \\ & \swarrow q_z \quad \searrow p_z & \downarrow \sigma \\ S_z & & Z \end{array}$$

cf. the proof of [Fus15, Theorem 2.1].

Since the morphism \tilde{p}_z is birational, and the surface \tilde{Z} is normal (and even smooth) in a neighborhood of the exceptional divisor E of σ , the morphism

$$\tilde{p}_z|_{\Pi}: \Pi \rightarrow E$$

is birational as well. Since $E \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ is a smooth curve, this implies that $\tilde{p}_z|_{\Pi}$ is actually an isomorphism, which means that a conic contained in Z and passing through z is uniquely defined by its tangent direction. Now [Fus15, Theorem 2.5] implies that there is a birational (possibly biregular) map

$$\zeta: \mathbb{P}^2 \dashrightarrow Z \subset \mathbb{P}^N$$

defined by a linear subsystem of $|\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(2)|$. This means that Z is a Veronese surface or its linear projection. \square

Corollary A.1.3. *Let Z be an integral surface and H be a Cartier divisor on Z such that $2H$ is very ample. Suppose that $\dim \Sigma(Z) \geq 2$. Then $Z \cong \mathbb{P}^2$ and H is the class of a line.*

Proof. Clearly, one has $\Sigma(Z) \subset S(v_2(Z))$, where v_2 is the embedding of Z given by the linear system $|2H|$, hence $\dim S(v_2(Z)) \geq 2$. Moreover, $v_2(Z)$ contains no lines, hence is not a cone. Therefore, by Lemma A.1.2 it is an isomorphic projection of $v_2(\mathbb{P}^2)$. This means that $Z \cong \mathbb{P}^2$ and H is the class of a line. \square

A.2. Normal bundles of degenerate conics. Below we describe a relation between a normal bundle of a reducible or non-reduced conic C on a smooth projective variety X , and normal bundles of the irreducible components of C , or the normal bundle of C_{red} , respectively. Then we apply this description to conics on Fano threefolds of index 1.

Lemma A.2.1. *Assume that $C = L_1 \cup L_2$ is a reducible conic on X , i.e. L_1 and L_2 are two distinct lines intersecting at a point P . Then there are exact sequences*

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_{L_1} \oplus \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_{L_2} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_P \rightarrow 0,$$

and

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L_i/X} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_{L_i} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_P \rightarrow 0, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

Proof. The first exact sequence takes place for any vector bundle on C ; it can be obtained by taking the tensor product (over \mathcal{O}_C) of this bundle with the canonical exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{L_1} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{L_2} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_P \rightarrow 0,$$

where all maps are just restrictions.

To establish the second sequence recall that

$$\text{Coker}(I_C \rightarrow I_{L_1}) \cong \text{Ker}(\mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{L_1}) \cong \mathcal{O}_{L_2}(-P)$$

by the Snake Lemma. Thus the natural embedding of the ideal sheaves $I_C \subset I_{L_1}$ extends to an exact sequence

$$(A.2.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow I_C \rightarrow I_{L_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{L_2}(-P) \rightarrow 0.$$

Note that

$$I_C \otimes \mathcal{O}_{L_1} \cong (I_C \otimes \mathcal{O}_C) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_C} \mathcal{O}_{L_1} \cong \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^{\vee}|_{L_1}, \quad \mathcal{O}_{L_1} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{L_2}(-P) \cong \mathcal{O}_P,$$

and $\mathrm{Tor}_1(\mathcal{O}_{L_1}, \mathcal{O}_{L_2}(-P))$ is a torsion sheaf on L_1 . Therefore, tensoring the exact sequence (A.2.2) with \mathcal{O}_{L_1} , we deduce an exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_1(\mathcal{O}_{L_1}, \mathcal{O}_{L_2}(-P)) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_{L_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L_1/X}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_P \rightarrow 0.$$

But the sheaf $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee$ as well as its restriction to L_1 is locally free, hence any morphism to it from $\mathrm{Tor}_1(\mathcal{O}_{L_1}, \mathcal{O}_{L_2}(-P))$ is zero. Thus we have an exact triple

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_{L_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L_1/X}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_P \rightarrow 0.$$

Dualizing it, we obtain the required exact sequence for L_1 . The sequence for L_2 can be obtained in a similar way. \square

Corollary A.2.3. *If X is a Fano threefold of index 1 and $C \subset X$ is a reducible conic, the Euler characteristic of the normal bundle equals $\chi(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}) = 2$.*

Proof. We use the sequences of Lemma A.2.1. By Lemma 2.1.4 the Euler characteristic of $\mathcal{N}_{L_i/X}$ equals 1. Since the Euler characteristic of \mathcal{O}_P is also 1, and that of $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_P \cong \mathcal{O}_P^{\oplus 2}$ equals 2, we deduce that the Euler characteristic of $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}$ equals $(1+1)+(1+1)-2 = 2$. \square

The case of a non-reduced conic is a bit more complicated.

Lemma A.2.4. *Assume that C is a non-reduced conic on a smooth projective variety X and $C_{\mathrm{red}} = L$. Then there are exact sequences*

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L(-1) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L \rightarrow 0,$$

and

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/X} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(2) \rightarrow 0.$$

Proof. Again, the first exact sequence takes place for any vector bundle on C : it can be obtained by taking the tensor product (over \mathcal{O}_C) of this bundle with the canonical exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(-1) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow 0.$$

To establish the second sequence note that analogously to the reducible case the natural embedding of the ideal sheaves $I_C \subset I_L$ extends to an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow I_C \rightarrow I_L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(-1) \rightarrow 0$$

Tensoring it with \mathcal{O}_L and taking into account that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Tor}_p(I_C, \mathcal{O}_L) &\cong \Lambda^{p+1} \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L, & \mathrm{Tor}_p(I_L, \mathcal{O}_L) &\cong \Lambda^{p+1} \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee, \\ \mathrm{Tor}_p(\mathcal{O}_L(-1), \mathcal{O}_L) &\cong \Lambda^p \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee(-1) \end{aligned}$$

for all p , we deduce an exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \Lambda^{n-1} \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee(-1) \rightarrow \Lambda^{n-1} \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L \rightarrow \Lambda^{n-1} \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee \rightarrow \dots \\ \dots \rightarrow \Lambda^2 \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee(-1) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(-1) \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $n = \dim X$. Since all conormal sheaves are locally free of rank $n-1$, it follows that the first map in the sequence is an isomorphism, hence

$$\det(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L) \cong \det(\mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee)(-1).$$

Therefore, the kernel of the map $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee$, which is a line bundle on L , is isomorphic to

$$\det(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L) \otimes \det(\mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee) \otimes \mathcal{O}_L(-1) \cong \mathcal{O}_L(-2).$$

As a result we get an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(-2) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{C/X}^\vee|_L \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{L/X}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(-1) \rightarrow 0.$$

The required exact sequence is obtained by dualization. \square

Corollary A.2.5. *If X is a Fano threefold of index 1 and $C \subset X$ is a non-reduced conic, the Euler characteristic of the normal bundle equals $\chi(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}) = 2$.*

Proof. We use the sequences of Lemma A.2.4. By Lemma 2.1.4 the Euler characteristic of $\mathcal{N}_{L/X}$ equals 1. Since the Euler characteristic of $\mathcal{O}_L(1)$ and $\mathcal{O}_L(2)$ equals 2 and 3 respectively, it follows that $\chi(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L) = 1 - 2 + 3 = 2$. Since $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L$ is a vector bundle of rank 2, we have $\chi(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L(-1)) = \chi(\mathcal{N}_{C/X}|_L) - 2 = 0$. Therefore, the Euler characteristic of $\mathcal{N}_{C/X}$ equals $2 + 0 = 2$. \square

APPENDIX B. LINES AND CONICS ON FANO THREEFOLDS

Throughout this section X is a Fano threefold of index 1 and Y is a Fano threefold of index 2 (both with Picard rank 1). We denote by H_X the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(X)$, and by L_X and P_X the classes of a line and a point in the corresponding Chow or cohomology groups. The bounded derived category of coherent sheaves on X is denoted by $\mathbf{D}^b(X)$, see [Kuz14] for a recent survey.

The main goal of this section is to prove Theorem 2.3.5. Besides, we give more detailed proofs of some facts, used in [Kuz09]. As before, we use notation and conventions of §2.1.

We start by recalling Mukai's results that describe Fano threefolds of index 1 and genus $g \geq 6$ as complete intersections in homogeneous varieties. Then we discuss the structure of derived categories of some Fano threefolds, and define subcategories $\mathcal{A}_X \subset \mathbf{D}^b(X)$ and $\mathcal{B}_Y \subset \mathbf{D}^b(Y)$ that contain the most essential geometric information about X and Y . In particular, we show that the Hilbert schemes of lines $\Sigma(Y)$ and conics $S(X)$ can be identified with certain moduli spaces of objects in these categories. Finally, we show that this identification gives an isomorphism $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$ for appropriate pairs (X, Y) .

B.1. Fano threefolds as complete intersections in homogeneous varieties. For each smooth Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g(X) \geq 6$ Mukai constructed in [Muk89] a stable vector bundle E on X of rank 2 with the following properties.

Theorem B.1.1 ([Muk89, Muk92]). *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g \geq 6$. Then there is a stable globally generated vector bundle E of rank 2 on X with*

$$c_1(E) = H_X, \quad c_2(E) = \left(1 + \frac{g}{2}\right) L_X,$$

and

$$(B.1.2) \quad \dim H^0(X, E) = 2 + \frac{g}{2}, \quad H^1(X, E) = H^2(X, E) = H^3(X, E) = 0.$$

Moreover, if $S \subset X$ is a very general anticanonical divisor, then the restriction $E_S = E|_S$ is stable and globally generated with

$$(B.1.3) \quad \dim H^0(S, E_S) = 2 + \frac{g}{2}, \quad H^1(S, E_S) = H^2(S, E_S) = 0.$$

Proof. Let $S \subset X$ be a very general hyperplane section of X in the anticanonical embedding, so that S is smooth and $\text{Pic}(S)$ is generated by the restriction H_S of H_X to S by Noether–Lefschetz theorem (see [Voi07, Theorem 3.33]). In [Muk89, Theorem 3] a stable globally generated vector bundle E_S of rank 2 with $c_1(E_S) = H_S$ and $c_2(E_S) = 1 + g/2$ is constructed such that (B.1.3) holds, and at the end of [Muk89, §2] it is explained that it extends to a vector bundle E on X . In [Muk92] it is shown that E is globally generated and (B.1.2) holds. Stability of E easily follows from the stability of E_S (a destabilizing subsheaf in E would restrict to a destabilizing subsheaf of E_S). \square

We call a bundle with the properties described in Theorem B.1.1 a *Mukai bundle*. It induces a map into a Grassmannian

$$X \rightarrow \text{Gr}\left(2, \frac{g}{2} + 2\right)$$

such that E is isomorphic to the pullback of the dual tautological bundle. In [Muk92] Mukai shows that

- for $g = 6$ the map $X \rightarrow \text{Gr}(2, 5)$ is either a closed embedding and the image is a complete intersection of two hyperplanes and a quadric, or a double cover onto a linear section of codimension 3 branched in an intersection with a quadric;
- for $g = 8$ the map $X \rightarrow \text{Gr}(2, 6)$ is a closed embedding whose image is a linear section of codimension 5;
- for $g = 10$ the map $X \rightarrow \text{Gr}(2, 7)$ is a closed embedding into the homogeneous space $G_2/P \subset \text{Gr}(2, 7)$ of the group G_2 (with $P \subset G_2$ a maximal parabolic subgroup) and the image is a linear section of G_2/P of codimension 2.

For $g = 12$ one can show that the map $X \rightarrow \text{Gr}(2, 8)$ is a closed embedding, but a description of the image is not known. For us in this case, only existence of this vector bundle is essential.

Remark B.1.4. In fact, Mukai proves that for any factorization $g = r \cdot s$ of the genus there is a nice stable vector bundle of rank r on X . In this way he also constructs an embedding of the genus 9 threefold into the symplectic Lagrangian Grassmannian $\text{LGr}(3, 6)$, and with an additional trick an embedding of the genus 7 threefold into the orthogonal Lagrangian Grassmannian $\text{OGr}(5, 10)$. For us it is important that the factorization $12 = 3 \cdot 4$ allows to construct a pair of vector bundles of rank 3 and 4 on a threefold of genus 12. They correspond to the embedding of such threefold into $\text{Gr}(3, 7)$ studied by Mukai.

We restrict to the case of even genus and factorization $g = 2 \cdot (g/2)$ as described in Theorem B.1.1. We prove some additional properties of Mukai bundles in this case. First, we show that a Mukai bundle is unique.

Proposition B.1.5. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g(X) \geq 6$. Let E_1, E_2 be two globally generated stable vector bundles on X of rank 2 with $c_1 = H_X$ and $c_2 = (1 + g(X)/2) L_X$. Then $E_1 \cong E_2$ and*

$$(B.1.6) \quad \text{Ext}^1(E_i, E_j(-1)) = 0.$$

Proof. Let $S \subset X$ be a very general hyperplane section of X in the anticanonical embedding. Then S is a smooth K3 surface with $\text{Pic}(S) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot H_X|_S$ by Noether–Lefschetz theorem (see [Voi07, Theorem 3.33]). By Riemann–Roch theorem one has $\chi(E_1|_S, E_2|_S) = 2$. It follows that either there is a nontrivial map $E_1|_S \rightarrow E_2|_S$, or by Serre duality a map in

the opposite direction. But by Maruyama Theorem [M⁺81] the restrictions $E_1|_S$ and $E_2|_S$ are stable for general S , hence such a map has to be an isomorphism. It follows that in both cases we have $E_1|_S \cong E_2|_S$ for a very general S . Now applying $\mathbf{Hom}(E_1, -)$ to the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E_2(-H_X) \rightarrow E_2 \rightarrow E_2|_S \rightarrow 0$$

we deduce that either $\mathbf{Hom}(E_1, E_2) \neq 0$, and then $E_1 \cong E_2$ by stability, or

$$\mathbf{Ext}^1(E_1, E_2(-H_X)) \neq 0.$$

So, it remains to check that the latter is impossible (this will also prove (B.1.6)).

Assume on the contrary that there is a nontrivial extension

$$(B.1.7) \quad 0 \rightarrow E_2(-H_X) \rightarrow F \rightarrow E_1 \rightarrow 0.$$

Let us show that F is semistable. Since

$$c_1(F) = c_1(E_1) + c_1(E_2) - 2H_X = 0,$$

by Hoppe's criterion ([Hop84]) it is enough to check that

$$\mathbf{Hom}(\mathcal{O}(H_X), F) = 0, \quad \mathbf{Hom}(\mathcal{O}(H_X), \Lambda^2 F) = 0, \quad \mathbf{Hom}(\mathcal{O}(H_X), \Lambda^3 F) = 0.$$

Since $\Lambda^3 F \cong F^\vee$, the first and the last of these vanishings are clear by (B.1.7) and stability of E_1 and E_2 . For the second vanishing note that $\Lambda^2 F$ has a three step filtration with factors being

$$\Lambda^2(E_2(-H_X)) \cong \mathcal{O}(-H_X), \quad E_2(-H_X) \otimes E_1 \cong E_2^\vee \otimes E_1, \quad \Lambda^2 E_1 \cong \mathcal{O}(H_X).$$

Again, by stability there are no maps from $\mathcal{O}(H_X)$ to the first two factors, hence any map

$$\mathcal{O}(H_X) \rightarrow \Lambda^2 F$$

will split off the last factor $\Lambda^2 E_1 \cong \mathcal{O}(H_X)$. Then the composition

$$F^\vee(H_X) \rightarrow F^\vee \otimes \Lambda^2 F \rightarrow F$$

of the embedding $\mathcal{O}(H_X) \rightarrow \Lambda^2 F$ tensored with F^\vee and the canonical contraction morphism will give a morphism $F^\vee(H_X) \rightarrow F$ such that the composition

$$E_1^\vee(H_X) \rightarrow F^\vee(H_X) \rightarrow F \rightarrow E_1$$

is an isomorphism. So, it will split off E_1 in the extension (B.1.7). This proves that F is semistable.

On the other hand, the discriminant $\Delta(F)$ of F is

$$\Delta(F) = 8c_2(F) = 8 \left(2 \left(1 + \frac{g(X)}{2} \right) - (2g(X) - 2) \right) L_X = -8(g(X) - 4)L_X,$$

so the semistability of F contradicts Bogomolov's inequality [HL10, Theorem 3.4.1]. \square

Remark B.1.8. For $g(X) = 4$ there may be two non-isomorphic Mukai bundles. Indeed a Fano threefold X of genus $g = 4$ is a complete intersection of a quadric and a cubic in \mathbb{P}^5 , see Table 2. If the quadric is smooth then it is isomorphic to $\mathrm{Gr}(2, 4)$ and thus carries two tautological subbundles. Their restrictions to X give two non-isomorphic bundles of the type discussed in Proposition B.1.5. Note that the vector bundle F defined as an extension (B.1.7) is trivial in this case.

Another fact that is useful for the discussion of derived categories is acyclicity of the Mukai bundle.

Lemma B.1.9. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g(X) \geq 6$. If E is the Mukai bundle on X then $H^\bullet(X, E(-H_X)) = 0$ and $\text{Ext}^\bullet(E, E) = \mathbb{k}$.*

Proof. Let S be a very general hyperplane section of X in the anticanonical embedding. We have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E(-H_X) \rightarrow E \rightarrow E_S \rightarrow 0.$$

Since the bundle E is stable by Theorem B.1.1 and $c_1(E(-H_X)) = -H_X$, we have

$$H^0(X, E_X(-H_X)) = 0.$$

Therefore the restriction map $H^0(X, E) \rightarrow H^0(S, E_S)$ is injective. But by (B.1.2) and (B.1.3) the dimensions of $H^0(X, E)$ and $H^0(S, E_S)$ are equal, hence the latter map is an isomorphism. Since again by (B.1.2) and (B.1.3) $H^{>0}(X, E) = H^{>0}(S, E_S) = 0$, we conclude that

$$H^\bullet(X, E_X(-H_X)) = 0.$$

For the second assertion, note that by Serre duality $\text{Ext}^3(E, E)$ is dual to $\text{Hom}(E, E(-H_X))$ which is zero by stability of E . Similarly, $\text{Ext}^2(E, E)$ is dual to $\text{Ext}^1(E, E(-H_X))$ which is zero by (B.1.6). Furthermore, one has $\dim \text{Hom}(E, E) = 1$ by stability of E . So, it remains to note that $\chi(E, E) = 1$ by Riemann–Roch theorem, hence $\text{Ext}^1(E, E) = 0$. \square

B.2. A correspondence between Fano threefolds of index 1 and 2. Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g(X) \geq 6$. We consider the Mukai bundle E of rank 2 on X , and from now on denote its dual by

$$\mathcal{U}_X = E^\vee.$$

It follows from Lemma B.1.9 (see also [Kuz09]) that the pair of vector bundles $(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee)$ is exceptional and gives a semiorthogonal decomposition of the derived category of coherent sheaves

$$\mathbf{D}^b(X) = \langle \mathcal{A}_X, \mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \rangle$$

with the subcategory \mathcal{A}_X defined by

$$(B.2.1) \quad \mathcal{A}_X = \langle \mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \rangle^\perp = \{F \in \mathbf{D}^b(X) \mid H^\bullet(X, F) = H^\bullet(X, F \otimes \mathcal{U}_X) = 0\}.$$

On the other hand, if Y is a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and arbitrary degree $d(Y)$, there is a semiorthogonal decomposition

$$\mathbf{D}^b(Y) = \langle \mathcal{B}_Y, \mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}_Y(1) \rangle,$$

with the subcategory \mathcal{B}_Y defined by

$$(B.2.2) \quad \mathcal{B}_Y = \langle \mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}_Y(1) \rangle^\perp = \{F \in \mathbf{D}^b(Y) \mid H^\bullet(Y, F) = H^\bullet(Y, F(-1)) = 0\}.$$

In the next lemma we show that the subcategories \mathcal{A}_X and \mathcal{B}_Y are preserved by all automorphisms of X and Y .

Lemma B.2.3. *The vector bundles \mathcal{O}_X and \mathcal{U}_X on a Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g(X) \geq 6$ are $\text{Aut}(X)$ -invariant. In particular, the action of the group $\text{Aut}(X)$ on $\mathbf{D}^b(X)$ preserves the subcategory \mathcal{A}_X , so there is a morphism*

$$\text{Aut}(X) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}_X)$$

to the group of autoequivalences of \mathcal{A}_X . Similarly, the line bundles \mathcal{O}_Y and $\mathcal{O}_Y(1)$ on a Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$ and $\iota(Y) = 2$ are $\text{Aut}(Y)$ -invariant, so $\text{Aut}(Y)$ acts on \mathcal{B}_Y and there is a morphism

$$\text{Aut}(Y) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{B}_Y).$$

In both cases the image is contained in the subgroup of autoequivalences acting trivially on the numerical Grothendieck group.

Proof. The invariance of \mathcal{O}_X , \mathcal{O}_Y and $\mathcal{O}_Y(1)$ under automorphisms is clear, and invariance of \mathcal{U}_X follows from Proposition B.1.5. The categories \mathcal{A}_X and \mathcal{B}_Y are preserved by automorphisms of X and Y by (B.2.1) and (B.2.2), hence the required morphisms. Finally, the automorphisms of Fano varieties of Picard rank 1 act trivially on their Chow groups, hence by [Kuz09] on the numerical Grothendieck groups. Therefore, the numerical classes of objects in \mathcal{A}_X and \mathcal{B}_Y are preserved by automorphisms of X and Y , respectively. \square

We will use the following result

Theorem B.2.4 ([Kuz09]). *For each smooth Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) \in \{8, 10, 12\}$ there is a smooth Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$ and*

$$d(Y) = \frac{g(X)}{2} - 1$$

such that $\mathcal{A}_X \cong \mathcal{B}_Y$.

Now we are going to prove Theorem 2.3.5 studying the possibilities case by case. The prove consists of Propositions B.4.1, B.5.1, and B.6.1 which will be established in the next subsections. In the course of proof we will remind the construction of the threefold Y associated to a threefold X .

B.3. Lines, conics, and derived categories. In this subsection we show that the Hilbert scheme $S(X)$ of conics on X can be thought of as a moduli space of objects in the category \mathcal{A}_X , defined by (B.2.1), and the Hilbert scheme $\Sigma(Y)$ of lines on Y can be thought of as a moduli space of objects in the category \mathcal{B}_Y , defined by (B.2.2).

We start with lines on a threefold Y of index 2.

Lemma B.3.1. *For any line $L \subset Y$ on a Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$ and $\iota(Y) = 2$ the ideal sheaf I_L is an object of the category \mathcal{B}_Y defined by (B.2.2).*

Proof. We have to check that

$$H^\bullet(Y, I_L) = H^\bullet(Y, I_L(-1)) = 0.$$

The first follows immediately from the exact sequence

$$(B.3.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow I_L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow 0.$$

For the second we twist the sequence (B.3.2) by $\mathcal{O}_Y(-1)$ and note that $H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y(-1)) = 0$ by Kodaira vanishing, and $H^\bullet(L, \mathcal{O}_L(-1)) = 0$ since $L \cong \mathbb{P}^1$. \square

An analogous statement for conics on X is a bit more complicated.

Lemma B.3.3. *For any conic $C \subset X$ on a Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and even genus $g(X) \geq 6$ one has*

$$(B.3.4) \quad H^\bullet(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) = 0.$$

As a consequence, the ideal sheaf I_C is an object of the category \mathcal{A}_X defined by (B.2.1).

Proof. First, let us show (B.3.4). Since C is one-dimensional, we could only have non-vanishing cohomology groups H^0 and H^1 . On the other hand, the Hilbert polynomial computation shows that

$$(B.3.5) \quad \dim H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) = \dim H^1(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C).$$

For this computation it is enough to assume that $C \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ is smooth, so that $\mathcal{U}_X|_C$ is a rank 2 vector bundle of degree $-H_X \cdot C = -2$, and its Euler characteristic is zero. By (B.3.5) it is enough to check that $H^0(X, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) = 0$.

Put $W = H^0(X, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee)^\vee$ and let $X \rightarrow \text{Gr}(2, W)$ be the map given by \mathcal{U}_X . The pullback to C of the tautological sequence on the Grassmannian

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X|_C \rightarrow W \otimes \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow (W/\mathcal{U}_X)|_C \rightarrow 0$$

shows that

$$H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) = \text{Ker} (H^0(C, W \otimes \mathcal{O}_C) = W \rightarrow H^0(C, (W/\mathcal{U}_X)|_C)).$$

Therefore $H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) \neq 0$ would imply that C is contained in the zero locus of some $w \in W$ considered as a global section of the quotient bundle W/\mathcal{U}_X . The zero locus of this global section on the Grassmannian $\text{Gr}(2, W)$ is nothing but the linearly embedded projective space

$$\mathbb{P}(W/w) \subset \text{Gr}(2, W).$$

On the other hand, by [Muk89] the map $X \rightarrow \text{Gr}(2, W)$ is an embedding and its image is a linear section of the Grassmannian (which is not dimensionally transverse), i. e. there is a vector subspace $V \subset \Lambda^2 W$ such that

$$X = \text{Gr}(2, W) \cap \mathbb{P}(V) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^2 W).$$

Thus the zero locus of w on X is the intersection

$$\mathbb{P}(W/w) \cap \mathbb{P}(V) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^2 W),$$

so it is a projective space itself. In particular, if it contains a conic then it also contains its linear hull \mathbb{P}^2 . But X cannot contain a plane by Lefschetz theorem. This contradiction shows that actually $H^0(X, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) = 0$ as it was claimed above, and thus proves (B.3.4).

It remains to check that

$$H^\bullet(X, I_C) = H^\bullet(X, I_C \otimes \mathcal{U}_X) = 0.$$

The first follows from the exact sequence

$$(B.3.6) \quad 0 \rightarrow I_C \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow 0$$

analogously to the case of lines. For the second we tensor the sequence (B.3.6) by \mathcal{U}_X to obtain

$$0 \rightarrow I_C \otimes \mathcal{U}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_C \otimes \mathcal{U}_X \rightarrow 0.$$

By Lemma B.1.9 we have $H^\bullet(X, \mathcal{U}_X) = 0$ and by (B.3.4)

$$H^\bullet(X, \mathcal{O}_C \otimes \mathcal{U}_X) = H^\bullet(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C) = 0.$$

This completes the proof. □

Remark B.3.7. The same argument applied to Fano threefolds of genus 9 (respectively, 7) and the natural vector bundle \mathcal{U}_X of rank 3 (respectively, 5) shows that there is a canonical morphism $\mathcal{U}_X^\perp \rightarrow I_C$, where I_C is the ideal sheaf of the conic C , and its kernel is in \mathcal{A}_X . So, in these cases one should consider these kernels instead of I_C and identify them as objects of $\mathbf{D}^b(\Gamma)$, where Γ is the associated curve of genus 3 (respectively, 7), see [Kuz06b, §6.2 and §6.3] for details.

The approach outlined in the Remark B.3.7 was used in [Kuz05] and [BF13] to describe the Hilbert scheme of conics on Fano threefolds of index 1 and genus 7 and 9. In the first case it was shown that $S(X) \cong \mathrm{Sym}^2(\Gamma)$, where Γ is the associated curve of genus 7, and in the second that $S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}_\Gamma(\mathcal{V})$, where \mathcal{V} is a rank 2 vector bundle on the associated curve of genus 3 (see also Proposition 2.3.6). Below we show that the vector bundle \mathcal{V} is simple; this was claimed in Proposition 2.3.6 and used in Corollary 4.3.5 for the proof of finiteness of $\mathrm{Aut}(X)$.

Lemma B.3.8. *Let X be a Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 9$. Let Γ be the curve of genus 3 and \mathcal{V} a rank 2 vector bundle on Γ , such that $S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}_\Gamma(\mathcal{V})$. Then \mathcal{V} is simple.*

Proof. By [BF13, Proposition 3.10] we have

$$\mathcal{V}^\vee \cong \Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee),$$

where \mathcal{U}_X is the restriction of the tautological bundle from $\mathrm{LGr}(3,6)$ to X (see also Remark B.1.4), $\Phi: \mathbf{D}^b(\Gamma) \rightarrow \mathbf{D}^b(X)$ is the fully faithful functor constructed in [Kuz06b], and Φ^* is its left adjoint functor (see [BF13] for details). Thus we have

$$\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{V}) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{V}^\vee, \mathcal{V}^\vee) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(\Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee), \Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee)) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \Phi(\Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee))).$$

On the other hand, by [BF13, (3.14)] there is a distinguished triangle

$$\mathcal{U}_X(1)[-2] \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \rightarrow \Phi(\Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee)) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X(1)[-1].$$

Applying the functor $\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, -)$ to it we get an exact sequence

$$\mathrm{Ext}^{-2}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \mathcal{U}_X(1)) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \Phi(\Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee))) \rightarrow \mathrm{Ext}^{-1}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \mathcal{U}_X(1)).$$

Since both \mathcal{U}_X^\vee and $\mathcal{U}_X(1)$ are pure sheaves, the Ext groups on the left and the right are zero, hence finally we have isomorphisms

$$\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{V}) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \Phi(\Phi^*(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee))) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee).$$

It remains to notice that $\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_X^\vee, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee) \cong \mathbb{k}$, since the sheaf \mathcal{U}_X^\vee is simple (it is even exceptional), see Remark B.1.4. \square

B.4. Conics on a Fano threefold of index 1 and genus 12. Let X be any smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 12$, and Y be the smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = 5$. In this subsection we will show that $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$. In fact, this result is well known (see [KS04, Theorem 2.4], [Isk80, Proposition III.1.6], [FN89]), but we will prove it from the perspective of derived categories.

Proposition B.4.1. *There are isomorphisms $S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}^2 \cong \Sigma(Y)$.*

Proof. Let us first consider the threefold Y . Recall that Y is a linear section of the Grassmannian $\mathrm{Gr}(2, 5) \cong \mathrm{Gr}(3, 5)$, see Table 1. Let \mathcal{U}_{2Y} and \mathcal{U}_{3Y} be the corresponding tautological bundles of rank 2 and 3 respectively. By [Orl91] there is a semiorthogonal decomposition

$$\mathrm{D}^b(Y) = \langle \mathcal{U}_{2Y}, \mathcal{U}_{3Y}, \mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}_Y(1) \rangle.$$

Moreover, $\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_{2Y}, \mathcal{U}_{3Y})$ is a three-dimensional vector space, and so

$$\mathcal{B}_Y = \langle \mathcal{U}_{2Y}, \mathcal{U}_{3Y} \rangle \cong \mathrm{D}^b(\mathbf{Q}_3).$$

where \mathbf{Q}_3 is the Kronecker quiver

$$\bullet \begin{array}{c} \rightrightarrows \\ \rightrightarrows \\ \rightrightarrows \end{array} \bullet$$

with 3 arrows. As it was explained in [Kuz12], this equivalence gives an isomorphism

$$\Sigma(Y) \cong \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_{2Y}, \mathcal{U}_{3Y})) \cong \mathbb{P}^2.$$

Indeed, an ideal sheaf of every line can be written as a cokernel of a unique map $\mathcal{U}_{2Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{3Y}$, and each such map has an ideal sheaf of a line as a cokernel.

Now consider a threefold X of Picard rank 1, index 1, and genus 12. Besides the vector bundle \mathcal{U}_X of rank 2, there are stable vector bundles \mathcal{U}_{X3} and \mathcal{U}_{X4} on X of ranks 3 and 4 respectively, see Remark B.1.4. These bundles are also exceptional and in [Kuz96] it was proved that together with the rank 2 bundle \mathcal{U}_X^\vee they form a semiorthogonal decomposition

$$\mathrm{D}^b(X) = \langle \mathcal{U}_{X3}, \mathcal{U}_{X4}, \mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \rangle.$$

Moreover, $\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_{X3}, \mathcal{U}_{X4})$ is again a three-dimensional vector space, and so

$$(B.4.2) \quad \mathcal{A}_X = \langle \mathcal{U}_{X3}, \mathcal{U}_{X4} \rangle \cong \mathrm{D}^b(\mathbf{Q}_3).$$

Now one can use the same arguments as in the case of Y to show that $S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}^2$. For completeness we sketch the arguments here.

First, the argument of Remark B.3.7 shows that $\mathrm{Hom}^\bullet(\mathcal{U}_{X4}, I_C) = \mathbb{k}$, hence the decomposition of the ideal sheaf I_C with respect to the exceptional pair $(\mathcal{U}_{X3}, \mathcal{U}_{X4})$ in \mathcal{A}_X takes form of a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X3} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X4} \rightarrow I_C \rightarrow 0.$$

Vice versa, by stability of \mathcal{U}_{X3} and \mathcal{U}_{X4} any morphism $\mathcal{U}_{X3} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X4}$ is injective and its cokernel is an ideal sheaf of a conic. Indeed, if F denotes the cokernel then the dual sequence

$$(B.4.3) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{H}om(F, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X4}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X3}^\vee \rightarrow \mathcal{E}xt^1(F, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow 0$$

shows that $\mathcal{H}om(F, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a rank 1 reflexive sheaf with $c_1 = 0$, hence is a line bundle isomorphic to \mathcal{O}_X . Thus $F' = \mathcal{E}xt^1(F, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a torsion sheaf with $c_1(F') = 0$. Dualizing the sequence (B.4.3) again one finds an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X3} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{X4} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{E}xt^2(F', \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow 0.$$

The last sheaf thus is the structure sheaf of a subscheme $Z \subset X$, and the Hilbert polynomial computation shows that $p_Z(t) = 1 + 2t$, hence Z is a conic. Altogether, we deduce that the equivalence (B.4.2) induces an isomorphism

$$S(X) \cong \mathbb{P}(\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{U}_{X3}, \mathcal{U}_{X4})) \cong \mathbb{P}^2.$$

The combination of the obtained isomorphisms proves the claim. \square

The composition of equivalence $\mathcal{A}_X \cong \mathbf{D}^b(\mathbf{Q}_3) \cong \mathcal{B}_Y$ mentioned in the proof takes the bundles \mathcal{U}_{X3} and \mathcal{U}_{X4} to the bundles \mathcal{U}_{Y2} and \mathcal{U}_{Y3} respectively. Therefore, it takes ideal sheaves of conics on X to ideal sheaves of lines on Y . Thus the isomorphism $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$ constructed in the proof is carried out by an equivalence $\mathcal{A}_X \cong \mathcal{B}_Y$.

B.5. Conics on a Fano threefold of index 1 and genus 10. In this subsection we prove the following

Proposition B.5.1. *For every smooth Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 10$ there is a Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and $d(Y) = 4$ such that $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$.*

The proof of Proposition B.5.1 takes the rest of the subsection. We explain the construction of Y from X in the course of proof.

Recall that X is a codimension 2 linear section of a homogeneous space of the simple algebraic group G_2 , see Table 2. The pencil of hyperplanes passing through X contains 6 singular elements (because the projectively dual variety is a sextic hypersurface), so one can consider the double cover $Z \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ branched in the corresponding 6 points. We will show that $S(X) \cong \text{Pic}^0(Z)$.

It was proved in [Kuz06b, §6.4 and §8] that there is a semiorthogonal decomposition

$$\mathbf{D}^b(X) = \langle \mathbf{D}^b(Z), \mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \rangle.$$

In other words, we have $\mathcal{A}_X \cong \mathbf{D}^b(Z)$. Moreover, an explicit fully faithful Fourier–Mukai functor

$$\Phi = \Phi_{\mathcal{E}}: \mathbf{D}^b(Z) \rightarrow \mathbf{D}^b(X)$$

giving this equivalence was constructed. Its kernel \mathcal{E} was shown to be a vector bundle on $X \times Z$ fitting into an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \boxtimes \mathcal{F}_6 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \boxtimes \mathcal{F}_3 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(H_X + H_Z) \rightarrow 0$$

for certain vector bundles \mathcal{F}_3 and \mathcal{F}_6 of ranks 3 and 6 on Z ; here H_X is the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(X)$ and H_Z is the canonical class of Z . In particular, for each point $z \in Z$ there is an exact sequence

$$(B.5.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_z \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^{\oplus 6} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X^{\vee \oplus 3} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_z(H_X) \rightarrow 0.$$

It follows that $r(\mathcal{E}_z) = 3$ and $c_1(\mathcal{E}_z) = -H_X$.

Remark B.5.3. In fact, one can check that all bundles \mathcal{E}_z are stable and that the family \mathcal{E} identifies the curve Z with the moduli space $\mathcal{M}_X(3; -H_X, 9L_X, -2P_X)$ of stable sheaves of rank 3 on X with $c_1 = -H_X$, $c_2 = 9L_X$ and $c_3 = -2P_X$. Note also that the bundle \mathcal{E} is well defined only modulo a twist by a line bundle on Z . We will discuss a normalization of \mathcal{E} later.

We proved in Lemma B.3.3 that for each conic C on X the ideal sheaf I_C is an object of the subcategory $\mathcal{A}_X = \Phi(\mathbf{D}^b(Z)) \subset \mathbf{D}^b(X)$, hence there is an object of $\mathbf{D}^b(Z)$ which maps to I_C under Φ . This object can be reconstructed by applying to I_C the left adjoint functor Φ^* of Φ . We compute the result in the next lemma. For convenience we use shifts $I_C[-1]$ of the ideal sheaves.

Lemma B.5.4. *The left adjoint functor Φ^* of Φ takes the shift $I_C[-1]$ of an ideal sheaf of a conic to a line bundle on Z .*

Proof. Let $z \in Z$ be an arbitrary point. Then by adjunction one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}^\bullet(\Phi^*(I_C[-1]), \mathcal{O}_z) &= \mathrm{Hom}^\bullet(I_C[-1], \Phi(\mathcal{O}_z)) = \\ &= \mathrm{Hom}^\bullet(I_C[-1], \mathcal{E}_z) = \mathrm{Hom}^\bullet(\mathcal{O}_C[-2], \mathcal{E}_z) = H^\bullet(C, \mathcal{E}_z|_C). \end{aligned}$$

The third equality above follows from the fact that $\mathcal{E}_z \in \mathcal{O}_X^\perp$ and from exact sequence (B.3.6), and the fourth equality follows from the Grothendieck duality because $\omega_{C/X} = \mathcal{O}_C$. Since \mathcal{E}_z is a vector bundle and C is a curve, the latter graded vector space a priori lives only in degrees 0 and 1 and its Euler characteristic is

$$\chi(\mathcal{E}_z|_C) = r(\mathcal{E}_z) + c_1(\mathcal{E}_z) \cdot C = 3 - 2 = 1.$$

So, if we show that $H^1(C, \mathcal{E}_z|_C) = 0$ it would follow that

$$\mathrm{Hom}^\bullet(\Phi^*(I_C[-1]), \mathcal{O}_z) = \mathbb{k}$$

for any point $z \in Z$ and hence $\Phi^*(I_C[-1])$ is a line bundle.

For the vanishing we note that by Serre duality we have

$$H^1(C, \mathcal{E}_z|_C)^\vee = H^0(C, \mathcal{E}_z^\vee(-H_X)|_C)$$

and by the dual of (B.5.2) the latter space embeds into $H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C^{\oplus 3})$ which is zero by (B.3.4). \square

If we twist \mathcal{E} with the pullback of a line bundle from Z , the functor Φ gets composed with the functor of tensor product by this line bundle, and the adjoint Φ^* gets composed with the functor of tensor product by the dual line bundle. Consequently, choosing this line bundle appropriately, we can ensure that the image of the shifted ideal sheaf of a chosen conic is the trivial line bundle. So, we choose one conic C_0 on X and normalize the bundle \mathcal{E} and the functor $\Phi = \Phi_\mathcal{E}$ by requiring that

$$\Phi^*(I_{C_0}[-1]) = \mathcal{O}_Z,$$

or equivalently

$$\Phi(\mathcal{O}_Z) = I_{C_0}[-1].$$

Proposition B.5.5. *The normalized functor*

$$\Phi: \mathbf{D}^b(Z) \rightarrow \mathbf{D}^b(X)$$

gives an isomorphism $\mathrm{Pic}^0(Z) \cong S(X)$.

Proof. By Lemma B.5.4 we know that $\Phi^*(I_C[-1])$ is a line bundle on Z . By Grothendieck–Riemann–Roch theorem the class of $\Phi^*(I_C[-1])$ in the numerical Grothendieck group is independent of C and thus coincides with the class of $\Phi^*(I_{C_0}[-1]) = \mathcal{O}_Z$, hence all these line bundles have degree zero. So, we can define a map

$$S(X) \rightarrow \mathrm{Pic}^0(Z), \quad C \mapsto \Phi^*(I_C[-1]).$$

The map is well defined for families of conics, hence is a regular morphism. To show that it is an isomorphism we will check that it is étale and surjective, and then will construct the inverse map.

To check that the map is étale we note that its differential at point C can be written as the composition

$$\mathrm{Hom}(I_C, \mathcal{O}_C) \rightarrow \mathrm{Ext}^1(I_C, I_C) \xrightarrow{\Phi^*} \mathrm{Ext}^1(\Phi^*(I_C[-1]), \Phi^*(I_C[-1])).$$

The first map here is the isomorphism of Lemma B.5.6 (see below) and the second is an isomorphism because $I_C \in \mathcal{A}_X$ by Lemma B.3.3, and the functor Φ^* when restricted to \mathcal{A}_X is quasiinverse to the equivalence $\Phi: \mathbf{D}^b(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_X$ and hence is full and faithful.

Since the map $\Phi^*: S(X) \rightarrow \mathrm{Pic}^0(Z)$ is étale and $S(X)$ is proper, it follows that Φ^* is surjective. Hence for any line bundle \mathcal{L} of degree 0 on Z there is a conic $C \subset X$ such that

$$\Phi^*(I_C[-1]) = \mathcal{L}.$$

Since Φ^* on \mathcal{A}_X is quasiinverse to Φ it follows that $\Phi(\mathcal{L}) = I_C[-1]$, hence

$$\mathcal{L} \mapsto \Phi(\mathcal{L})[1]$$

is a well-defined map $\mathrm{Pic}^0(Z) \rightarrow S(X)$. This map is inverse to the map considered before since Φ and Φ^* are quasiinverse to each other. \square

The fact we used in the proof of Proposition B.5.5 is a special case of the following general result.

Lemma B.5.6. *Let X be a smooth projective variety of dimension n with $\mathrm{Pic}^0(X) = 0$ and $p(t)$ be an integer valued polynomial of degree at most $n - 2$. Let $\mathrm{Hilb}^p(X)$ be the Hilbert scheme of subschemes in X with Hilbert polynomial p , and $\mathcal{M}_X(1; 0, -p)$ be the moduli space of Gieseker semistable sheaves on X of rank 1 with $c_1 = 0$ and with Hilbert polynomial $p_{\mathcal{O}_X} - p$. Then the canonical morphism*

$$(B.5.7) \quad \mathrm{Hilb}^p(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_X(1; 0, -p), \quad (Z \subset X) \mapsto I_Z,$$

where I_Z is the ideal sheaf of Z , is an isomorphism. In particular, for any subscheme $Z \subset X$ of codimension at least 2 there is an isomorphism

$$(B.5.8) \quad \mathrm{Hom}(I_Z, \mathcal{O}_Z) \cong \mathrm{Ext}^1(I_Z, I_Z).$$

Proof. To construct the inverse morphism we take an arbitrary scheme S and consider a sheaf \mathcal{F} on $X \times S$ which is Gieseker semistable with the prescribed Hilbert polynomial on fibers over S and consider its reflexive hull $\mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee}$. By [Kol90, Lemma 6.13] the sheaf $\mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee}$ is locally free and the map above is an isomorphism in codimension 1. Therefore, one has

$$\mathcal{F}_s^{\vee\vee} \cong \det(\mathcal{F}_s) \cong \mathcal{O}_X,$$

for any point $s \in S$. Therefore, up to a twist by a line bundle on S , we have an isomorphism $\mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee} \cong \mathcal{O}_{X \times S}$, and the canonical map $\mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee}$ identifies \mathcal{F} with a sheaf of ideals of a subscheme in $X \times S$. It also follows from the proof of [Kol90, Lemma 6.13] that this subscheme is flat over S , and thus defines a map $S \rightarrow \mathrm{Hilb}^p(X)$. This map is clearly inverse to the map $Z \mapsto I_Z$, hence the first claim.

The second claim follows from the first, just because the left and the right hand sides of (B.5.8) are the tangent spaces to the Hilbert scheme and to the moduli space of semistable sheaves, respectively, and the required isomorphism is the differential of the isomorphism (B.5.7). \square

Now starting from X (or rather from the curve Z) we are going to construct a threefold Y of index 2 and degree 4 such that $\Sigma(Y) \cong \mathrm{Pic}^0(Z)$. Let $\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_5 \in \mathbb{P}^1$ be the branch points of the double cover $Z \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$. Choose an embedding $\mathbb{A}^1 \subset \mathbb{P}^1$ so that the latter six points are contained in \mathbb{A}^1 , and denote their coordinates in \mathbb{A}^1 also by λ_i . Let Y

be the intersection of two quadrics given in \mathbb{P}^5 with homogeneous coordinates x_0, \dots, x_5 by equations

$$x_0^2 + \dots + x_5^2 = \lambda_0 x_0^2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_5^2 = 0,$$

so that the curve $B(Y)$ defined in Remark 2.2.11 is isomorphic to Z . By [BO95, Kuz08] we have a semiorthogonal decomposition

$$\mathbf{D}^b(Y) = \langle \mathbf{D}^b(Z), \mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}_Y(1) \rangle,$$

i.e. an equivalence $\Psi: \mathbf{D}^b(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_Y$. Similarly to the case of the variety X , this equivalence induces an isomorphism $\Sigma(Y) \cong \text{Pic}^0(Z)$ (see [DR76] or [Kuz12, §5.3] for detailed explanation). Combining the two constructed isomorphisms we deduce Proposition B.5.1.

B.6. Conics on a Fano threefold of index 1 and genus 8. Let X be a smooth Fano threefold with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and $g(X) = 8$. In this subsection we discuss the associated Fano threefold of index 2, which in this case is just a cubic threefold, and construct an isomorphism $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$.

Proposition B.6.1. *For every smooth Fano threefold X with $\rho(X) = 1$, $\iota(X) = 1$, and genus $g(X) = 8$ there is a smooth Fano threefold Y with $\rho(Y) = 1$, $\iota(Y) = 2$, and degree $d(Y) = 3$ such that $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$.*

The proof of Proposition B.6.1 takes the rest of the subsection. Recall that X is a linear section of the Grassmannian $\text{Gr}(2, 6)$ of codimension 5, see Table 2. Let W be a six-dimensional vector space and

$$A \subset \Lambda^2 W^\vee$$

be the five-dimensional space of linear equations of $X \subset \text{Gr}(2, W)$. Then the associated cubic threefold Y is defined as

$$(B.6.2) \quad Y = \mathbb{P}(A) \cap \text{Pf}(W) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^2 W^\vee),$$

where $\text{Pf}(W) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^2 W^\vee)$ is the Pfaffian cubic hypersurface.

In this case we will construct an isomorphism $S(X) \cong \Sigma(Y)$ geometrically. Denote by

$$R \subset \text{Gr}(2, A) \times \text{Gr}(4, W)$$

the locus of pairs (A_2, W_4) consisting of a two-dimensional subspace $A_2 \subset A$ and a four-dimensional subspace $W_4 \subset W$ such that the composition

$$A_2 \hookrightarrow A \hookrightarrow \Lambda^2 W^\vee \rightarrow \Lambda^2 W_4^\vee$$

is the zero map. In other words, R is the zero locus of the natural section of the vector bundle $\mathcal{U}_A^\vee \boxtimes \Lambda^2 \mathcal{U}_W^\vee$, where \mathcal{U}_A is the tautological bundle on $\text{Gr}(2, A)$ and \mathcal{U}_W is the tautological bundle on $\text{Gr}(4, W)$.

Proposition B.6.3. *There are isomorphisms $S(X) \cong R \cong \Sigma(Y)$.*

Proof. Given a point $(A_2, W_4) \in R$ we associate to it a conic in X as follows. Since the space A_2 maps to zero in $\Lambda^2 W_4^\vee$, the image of A in $\Lambda^2 W_4^\vee$ is at most three-dimensional, hence the intersection

$$(B.6.4) \quad X \cap \text{Gr}(2, W_4) \subset \text{Gr}(2, W)$$

is the linear section of $\text{Gr}(2, W_4)$ of codimension at most 3. Since $\text{Gr}(2, W_4)$ is a four-dimensional quadric, this intersection is either a conic, or a plane, or a two-dimensional quadric, or has dimension larger than 2. But by Lefschetz theorem X contains neither

planes, nor two-dimensional quadrics, and is not contained in $\text{Gr}(2, W_4)$. Hence the intersection (B.6.4) is a conic. Therefore, we have a map

$$s: R \rightarrow S(X), \quad (A_2, W_4) \mapsto X \cap \text{Gr}(2, W_4).$$

For the inverse map consider the tautological sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X^\perp \rightarrow W^\vee \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X^\vee \rightarrow 0$$

and restrict it to a conic $C \subset X$:

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X|_C^\perp \rightarrow W^\vee \otimes \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_X|_C^\vee \rightarrow 0.$$

Since $H^1(C, \mathcal{O}_C) = 0$, it follows that $H^1(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C^\vee) = 0$, and so by Riemann–Roch theorem one has $\dim H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X|_C^\vee) = 4$. Therefore the subspace

$$H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X^\perp|_C) \subset H^0(C, W^\vee \otimes \mathcal{O}_C) = W^\vee$$

is at least two-dimensional. Clearly, any linear function from this space vanishes on any two-dimensional subspace $U \subset W$ parameterized by a point of the conic C . So, if this space is at least three-dimensional then C is contained in the linear section $X \cap \text{Gr}(2, 3)$ of $\text{Gr}(2, 3) \cong \mathbb{P}^2$, hence this linear section is \mathbb{P}^2 , which gives a contradiction since X cannot contain a plane by Lefschetz theorem. This means that $H^0(C, \mathcal{U}_X^\perp|_C)$ is a two-dimensional subspace in W^\vee and its annihilator is a four-dimensional subspace $W_4 \subset W$. Since a conic in a four-dimensional quadric $\text{Gr}(2, W_4) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Lambda^2 W^4)$ is a linear section of codimension 3, it follows that at least a two-dimensional subspace of linear equations of X restricts trivially to $\Lambda^2 W_4$. Vice versa, if a three-dimensional space of equations would restrict trivially to $\Lambda^2 W_4$, then the intersection (B.6.4) would contain a two-dimensional quadric which is again forbidden by Lefschetz theorem. Thus, the space of equations restricting trivially to $\Lambda^2 W_4$ is a two-dimensional subspace $A_2 \subset A$, the pair (A_2, W_4) is a point of R , and $C \mapsto (A_2, W_4)$ is a morphism $S(X) \rightarrow R$ inverse to the morphism s above.

On the other hand, given a point $(A_2, W_4) \in R$ we can associate with it the line

$$L = \mathbb{P}(A_2) \subset \mathbb{P}(A).$$

Note that by definition of R each skew form in A_2 has a four-dimensional isotropic subspace W_4 and hence is degenerate. Thus $L \subset \text{Pf}(W)$, hence $L \subset Y$, so that the map

$$\sigma: R \rightarrow \Sigma(Y), \quad (A_2, W_4) \mapsto \mathbb{P}(A_2) \subset Y$$

is well defined. To construct the inverse map we note that by [KMM10, Appendix A] for each line

$$L = \mathbb{P}(A_2) \subset Y$$

there is a unique four-dimensional subspace $W_4 \subset W$ isotropic for all skew forms in L . Thus $L \mapsto (A_2, W_4)$ is a morphism $\Sigma(Y) \rightarrow R$ which is clearly inverse to the morphism σ above. \square

Remark B.6.5. One can also describe the isomorphism of Proposition B.6.3 via derived categories. For this note that by [Kuz04, Kuz06a] there is an equivalence $\mathcal{A}_X \cong \mathcal{B}_Y$. Moreover, the equivalence is given by the Fourier–Mukai functor

$$\Phi = \Phi_{I_Z(H_Y)}: \mathbf{D}^b(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{D}^b(Y)$$

with the kernel being the $\mathcal{O}_Y(H_Y)$ -twist of the ideal sheaf I_Z of an irreducible four-dimensional subvariety

$$Z \subset X \times Y$$

of all points (U, a) such that the kernel of the skew form $a \in A$ intersects the two-dimensional subspace $U \subset W$. One can check that under this functor the ideal sheaf of a conic on C goes to the ideal sheaf of the corresponding line on Y . However, this verification is more complicated than the direct geometric proof given above, so we skip it.

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